



AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL  
HEADQUARTERS LIBRARY

54<sup>th</sup> National Convention  
of The  
**AMERICAN  
LEGION**



Chicago, Ill., August 18-24, 1972

Chicago



"PEPSI-COLA" AND "PEPSI" ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF PEPSICO, INC.



Your son.  
Today he's shagging balls. Tomorrow  
he'll be slugging 'em out of sight.  
Golf is one of the rare pleasures you can  
share through a lifetime.  
Pepsi-Cola happens to be another.  
Somehow, Pepsi always belongs where people  
have a thirst for living.

**You've got a lot to live. Pepsi's got a lot to give.**



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY  
WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER  
FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES

*To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.*

## 54th NATIONAL CONVENTION

Aug. 18-24, 1972 • Chicago, Illinois



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
54th  
National Convention



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
1st National Convention



AMERICAN LEGION  
AUXILIARY  
52nd  
National Convention



LA BOUTIQUE  
DES HUIT CHAPEAUX  
ET QUARANTE FEMMES  
51st  
Marche Nationale

# The American Legion Chicago Convention Program

## INDEX

	<i>Page</i>		<i>Page</i>
Airline Information .....	88	8 & 40 Program .....	65
Annual Report .....	88	Final Contests, Parade of	
Auxiliary Program .....	52	Champions .....	27
Board of Directors .....	30	Honorary Officers, Chicago	
Business Session, The Legion ...	36	Convention Corporation .....	31
Church Directory .....	32	Officers, Chicago Convention	
Commission and Committee		Corporation .....	29
Meetings .....	20	Parade Orders .....	82
Contests, Uniformed Groups ...	22	Patriotic Program .....	45
Convention Commission .....	25	Registration, Information	
Convention Committee		and Tickets .....	4
Meetings .....	24	Reunions and Dinners .....	26
Convention Corporation Committee		Standing Rules of Convention ..	34
Chairmen .....	50	Vietnam Veterans Meeting .....	24
Directory, Delegation Hotels ...	16	Youth Leaders .....	64
Distinguished Guests .....	39		



ABOUT THE COVER: Robert Geissmann of New York City designed and produced the historical and picturesque cover of The American Legion National Convention Program. Mr. Geissmann has a long and distinguished record in designing and illustrating for advertisers and magazines. During World War II, he headed the art department for the United States Air Force Combat Film Unit. He holds the Air Force Exceptional Service Medal for his work with the U.S. Air Force. For our cover, the artist has depicted only a few of the famous landmarks in Chicago. The Chicago skyline from the lake is an inspiring and beautiful view. The Wrigley Building Tower and the beach of Lake Michigan are scenes that visitors by the thousands have seen. The famous Water Tower, lower left, survived the great fire. The lion statue in the front of the Chicago Art Institute, a colorful plaza and the Marina Towers Apartments complete the artist's work. Legionnaires, members of the Auxiliary and guests attending the 1972 Chicago Convention will visit many of these places, as well as many more, to make this the 54th Annual National Convention one to enjoy and long remember.



## Welcome to the 54th Annual National Convention and to Chicago

As The American Legion gathers in this important National Convention it marks the sixth time Chicago has hosted a Legion National Convention. As your National Commander, I take personal pride in welcoming our delegates and guests to the windy city for, as you know, this is home territory for me.

Convention time for an organization such as ours is like commencement time for the student. It marks the ending and the beginning. It concludes another year of service to God and country, while celebrating the beginning of a new year of service. The convention itself is the transition period. These few busy days will be used to chart the course of the Legion for the year ahead. I know you will plan carefully. The new leadership we choose here will need the full support of a strong organization united behind the mandates we adopt. I am confident they will have such support.

During the past year we have had as our national theme "Reach Out—It's Action Time," and I feel that we have had an action packed year, a year in which we have taken important initiatives in service to our fellow veterans, to our young people, to our communities and to our country.

Of particular significance to America's veterans is the hospital-medical care capability of the Veterans Administration. The veteran population is growing and the demands on the VA system will increase. We have had a committee studying this matter for nearly a year and they will report to this convention. I urge you to study this report carefully and be prepared to act vigorously when you are requested to.

Our concern for the young veteran's problems is all-inclusive. He needs and deserves public recognition. He needs counseling on jobs, housing, education and other matters, and we must help provide it. The educational provisions of the G.I. Bill need improving now, and we must actively seek that improvement.

I am extremely proud of our continuing actions in reaching out to our nation's youth through our great programs of Boys State and Nation, Boy Scouts, Oratorical Contests, School Medal Awards, Children & Youth projects and other ways to help young America grow to strong, healthy, responsible adulthood.

We must continue our active interest in maintaining the security of the United States. This requires superior weapons as well as a citizenry willing to meet the challenge of defending freedom. It also requires adherence to the



principles of law and order upon which our government is based and without which it cannot stand.

For more than a half century The American Legion has been one of America's great national resources. I commend each of you for your dedicated efforts in keeping our organization strong, effective and involved.

**JOHN H. GEIGER**  
*National Commander*



# WHERE TO REGISTER OBTAIN INFORMATION and PURCHASE TICKETS

Registration and Information Booths and ticket sales points will be operated in Chicago for the convenience of conventioners. You may register for the convention (\$5.00 per adult) or purchase tickets for the Junior-Senior Drum and Bugle Corps Final Contests.

Booths will be located in the lobbies of:

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
Palmer House Hotel  
Pick-Congress Hotel  
Drake Hotel

Booths will operate from 1:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 17 and daily thereafter from 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. until taken out of service at the direction of the Convention Corporation.

In addition to the above locations, one booth will be operated in the foyer of the Arie Crown Theatre at McCormick Place, the site of General Convention Sessions on August 22, 23 and 24.

Additionally, conventioners may register at the Convention Corporation Headquarters, Room 418, 343 So. Dearborn Street during the entire convention period.

All persons (except those under age 12) are to be reminded that the official convention badge or other approved credentials are required to gain entry to the General Convention Business Sessions.

Tickets for the Junior-Senior Drum and Bugle Corps Finals are \$3.00 for reserved section and \$2.00 for general admission. A coupon included in each registration packet (within the official convention program) may be used to reduce the price of either the \$3.00 or \$2.00 ticket by 50 cents. The coupon must be presented at the time of ticket purchase.

Shuttle buses will operate to and from Soldier Field, the site of the Junior-Senior Drum and Bugle Corps Finals on Sunday night, August 20 and will also operate to and from McCormick Place, site of the General Convention Sessions on August 22, 23 and 24. Information as to pick-up points and times may be obtained at Registration-Information Booths.



*McCormick Place-On-The-Lake, the world's largest convention center, contains the Arie Crown Theatre which is where the three-day business sessions will be held when The American Legion stages its 54th Annual National Convention in Chicago, August 18-24, 1972.*





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 8, 1972

In communities across our nation the American Legion stands for the highest principles of our democratic society and the most determined defense of the freedom we cherish.

As we turn to the work of building a lasting peace, I know we can continue to count on your help in maintaining the foundations of that peace and in keeping America strong.

On behalf of a grateful nation well served by you in both war and peace, I applaud you and wish you a highly successful and enjoyable Convention.

*Richard Nixon*





STATE OF ILLINOIS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SPRINGFIELD 62706

RICHARD B. OGILVIE  
GOVERNOR



Dear Fellow Legionnaires:

On behalf of all the people of Illinois, I am pleased and proud to welcome Legionnaires from all over America and the world to our 54th annual convention.

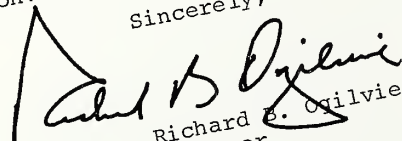
In an age when the nation's most fundamental principles seem to be under attack...when respect for the law and a simple, straightforward love of country too often seem to be unfashionable relics of an earlier era, the Legion can be proud of its steadfast patriotism and faith in America.

We know our country has its blemishes, but we also realize that an incessant chorus of unyielding criticism will do no more to solve our problems than an uncritical affection for everything American. As men who have learned the awful price of freedom, we have a special obligation to work for its preservation--both by strengthening our defenses abroad, and by strengthening the fabric of a free and just society here at home.

While you're visiting in our state, we hope you will take a little extra time to see Illinois, for we think you will find here a microcosm of what America is all about. Eleven million friendly people are waiting to make your acquaintance.

Best wishes for a great convention.

Sincerely,

  
Richard B. Ogilvie  
Governor



# What do you get with the GM mark of excellence?

*Safety features that  
protect you. And pol-  
lution controls that pro-  
tect our environment.*

*Side-guard beams  
and energy absorb-  
ing steering column.*

*Strong, silent, durable  
Body by Fisher.*



*A traditionally  
high resale price.*

*Strong, impact-  
resistant windshield.*

*All these and lots more.  
Just ask any Chevrolet,  
Pontiac, Oldsmobile, Buick  
or Cadillac dealer.*



**The  
American  
Legion**

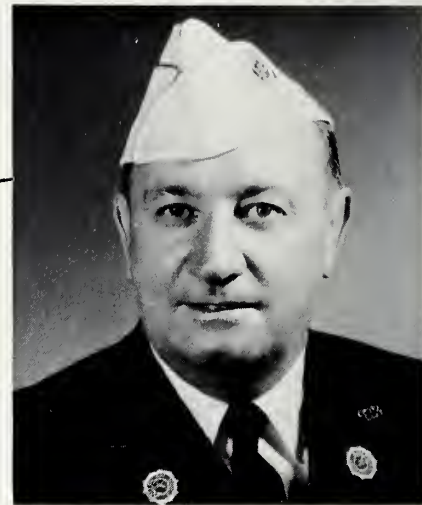


*For God and Country*

**EDWARD A. SCHALK**  
Department Commander  
1971-1972  
5000 No. Merrimac Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois 60630

DEPARTMENT OF *Illinois*

DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS OFFICE  
201 E. Grove St. . . . Bloomington, Ill. 61701 . . . Phone 309-828-6067



May 30, 1972

Welcome Legionnaires:

Illinois is proud to be your host once again. All the Legionnaires of the Department of Illinois join with me in extending a personal and cordial welcome to you.

Many of you remember the National Conventions which have been held here in Chicago. Let me assure you that this one will be better.

For you "first-timers," you will be impressed with the Chicago attractions of the lakefront, the "Loop," and the many places of interest. The many dining places offer a variety of menus found nowhere else—a gourmet's delight. The many interesting sightseeing spots, from "Big John," to the old watertower, offer your families many hours of pleasure.

We think you will find Chicago has changed, but, is still the same friendly place. We're glad to have you back.

Sincerely,

Edward A. Schalk  
Department Commander



***We congratulate  
you  
on your 54<sup>th</sup> year  
of  
outstanding service  
to our country.***

***And our best wishes  
for the coming year***

**Occidental Life of California**  *A Member of  
Transamerica Corporation*

Underwriter of the American Legion Life Insurance Plan





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

RICHARD J. DALEY  
MAYOR

July 5, 1972

Chicago has been highly honored in being named as the Host City for The American Legion National Convention. The coming of the members of the American Legion and their Women's Auxiliary to our city means much more to the people of Chicago than just the coming of one more convention to this, the Convention Capital of the World.

For us the Legion will always be our Boys. You are the lads for whom Chicago built the program which won the plaudits of all Service Men and Women and established our reputation as the Serviceman's Town.

That spirit lives on and you will find Chicago the same friendly city you knew in the days you wore the uniform of the Military Services of our country.

As Mayor in the name of all our people I bid you Welcome.

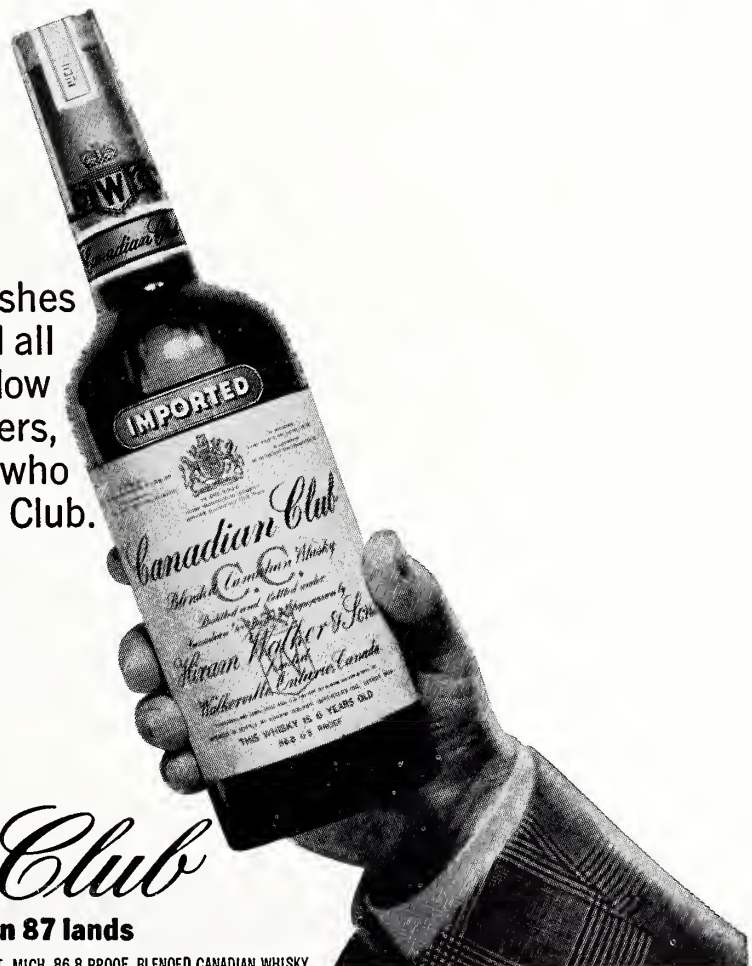
Sincerely,

*Richard J. Daley*  
Mayor



**Hello, Joe, Jack, Bert, Phil, Tom,  
Ernie, John, Bill, Dave, Charlie,  
Walt, Dick, Stu, Don, Herb, Bob,  
Harry, George, Arnie, Mort,  
Fred, Al, Pete, Jerry, Pat, Stan,  
Jim, Barry, Greg, Marv, Sam,  
Gene, Gary, Carl, Oscar, Elliot,  
Norm, Frank, Warren, Ben,  
Paul, Vince, Henry, Lou, Ted,  
Ken, Mike, Milt, Dan, Len, Bud,  
Archie, Larry.**

Warmest best wishes  
to you and all  
your fellow  
conventioners,  
from the people who  
make Canadian Club.



*Canadian Club*

**"The Best In The House"® in 87 lands**

6 YEARS OLD. IMPORTED IN BOTTLE FROM CANADA BY HIRAM WALKER IMPORTERS INC., DETROIT, MICH. 86.8 PROOF. BLENDED CANADIAN WHISKY.





OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
CHICAGO  
60602

GEORGE W. DUNNE  
PRESIDENT



To the Officers, Delegates and Guests  
54th National Convention of the American Legion  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Friends:

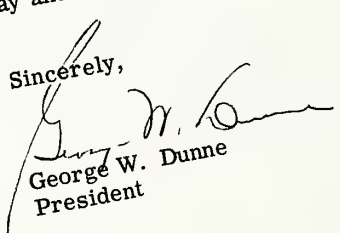
It is indeed a privilege to be given this opportunity of extending a cordial welcome on behalf of the County of Cook, to you, the delegates of the 54th National Convention of the American Legion, and I sincerely hope all of you will enjoy your stay here.

The contributions the American Legion has made to the welfare of our country over its many years of existence are needed now more than ever before. As this nation continues to seek unity, it is indeed laudable that men from all walks of life meet together to accomplish worthy objectives for the benefit of all.

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States, to help maintain law and order, to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy, to promote peace and to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by devotion to mutual helpfulness, will be, I am sure, your continued goals.

I am confident that your deliberations will achieve the goals your convention has set forth, and will continue the furtherance of the good life in America -- for all citizens -- for today and tomorrow, and to this tremendous responsibility, I wish you well.

Sincerely,

  
George W. Dunne  
President

Best Wishes to  
**The American Legion**

from

*The Leterman-Gortz Corporation*

We are proud to be  
Consultants to  
National Headquarters  
National Headquarters - American Legion Auxiliary  
and  
the Departments  
for The American Legion  
Employee Insurance Benefit  
Program

Underwritten by  
**Life Insurance Company of North America**

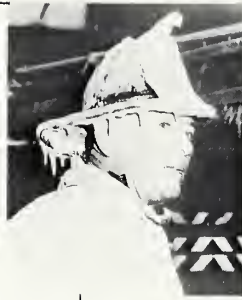




OFFICE OF THE FIRE COMMISSIONER

CITY OF CHICAGO

ROBERT J. QUINN  
FIRE COMMISSIONER



Greetings To All American Legion Members:

As Fire Commissioner of the City of Chicago, I extend to you a warm welcome to our beautiful, friendly city.

I am very happy that the American Legion National Convention Corporation of Illinois, again chose Chicago in which to hold your 54th Annual Convention because I feel sincerely, that Chicago has more to offer in all areas of human needs and desires, than any other city on earth.

I hope that while you are here, you find the opportunity to see and enjoy some of the wonderful places available without charge to residents and visitors alike. Of course you are especially invited to visit our Fire Department installations such as the Chicago Fire Academy, the Fire Alarm Office, the Fire Department Gymnasium, our many new and modern Fire Stations, the Fire Boats, Civil Defense Fire & Rescue quarters, and many others.

Anything the Chicago Fire Department can do to make your stay more enjoyable will be done. You have only to ask.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Quinn  
Fire Commissioner

CITY OF CHICAGO / DEPARTMENT OF POLICE 1121 South State Street Chicago, Illinois 60605

744-



RICHARD J. OALEY, Mayor  
JAMES B. CONLISK, JR., Superintendent



Greetings Legionnaires:

I take great pleasure in extending a warm welcome and the hospitality of our city to the officers, delegates, members and guests of the 54th National Convention of The American Legion.

Chicago is honored to be selected as the host city for this most important gathering, and the men and women of the Chicago Police Department pledge to do their utmost to insure that our guests enjoy a memorable visit.

Our common interest in the promotion of the ideals upon which our great nation was built is shared by the people of the Chicagoland area, and we all wish you every measure of success with the 54th National Convention of your fine organization.

Sincerely,

James B. Conlisk, Jr.  
Superintendent of Police



Some things  
a man decides  
for himself.



If you think Bude<sup>®</sup>  
is sort of special,  
that's all the more reason  
to make it  
your regular beer.  
(Think about it)

ANHEUSER-BUSCH, INC. • ST. LOUIS

When you say Budweiser<sup>®</sup>, you've said it all!





# DIRECTORY OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

## NATIONAL CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

Continental Room - Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
786-1750

## CONVENTION CORPORATION HEADQUARTERS

Room 418 - 343 South Dearborn  
922-3911

## THE AMERICAN LEGION HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400

### SESSIONS:

McCormick Place  
Arie Crown Theatre  
East 23rd Street & Lake Front  
791-6100

## DISTINGUISHED GUEST HEADQUARTERS

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS STAFF

Pick-Congress Hotel  
520 South Michigan Avenue  
427-3800

## THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Palmer House Hotel  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500

### SESSIONS:

Grand Ballroom  
Palmer House Hotel

## EIGHT & FORTY HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

LaSalle Hotel  
10 North LaSalle Street  
FR. 2-0700

### SESSIONS:

LaSalle Hotel

## NATIONAL CONVENTION PHOTOGRAPHER

Central Studios  
343 South Dearborn  
922-3911

## OFFICIAL DELEGATION HOTELS

### ALABAMA

Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel  
Michigan Avenue & Balbo  
427-4300  
(Lawson M. Lynn, Adjutant)

### ALASKA

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Joseph M. Briones, Adjutant)

### ARIZONA

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Bryant B. Barron, Adjutant)

### ARKANSAS

Essex Inn  
800 South Michigan Avenue  
939-2800  
(Arthur R. Cross, Jr., Adjutant)

### CALIFORNIA

Sherman House  
100 West Randolph Street  
372-2100  
(Edward Sharkey, Adjutant)

### CANADA

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Arthur J. Davignon, Adjutant)

### COLORADO

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(E. Dean Hunter, Adjutant)

### CONNECTICUT

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(Hugh C. Graham, Adjutant)

### DELAWARE

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Garland D. Bloodsworth, Adjutant)

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(H. Victor Conwell, Adjutant)

### FLORIDA

Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel  
Michigan Avenue & Balbo  
427-4300  
(Ralph A. Johnson, Adjutant)

### FRANCE

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Dan Biondi, Adjutant)

## GEORGIA

Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel  
Michigan Avenue & Balbo  
427-4300  
(George E. Osborne, Adjutant)

## HAWAII

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Bernard J. Peron, Adjutant)

## IDAHO

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Robert Reilly, Adjutant)

## ILLINOIS

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(E.V. "Skip" Kiesling, Adjutant)

## INDIANA

Holiday Inn - Lake Shore  
644 North Lake Shore Drive  
943-9200  
(Richard C. Smidley, Adjutant)

## IOWA

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Robert R. White, Adjutant)

## ITALY

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(John J. Fornacca, Adjutant)

## KANSAS

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Kenneth L. Young, Adjutant)

## KENTUCKY

Executive House  
71 East Wacker Drive  
FI 6-7100  
(Ray A. Beyer, Adjutant)

## LOUISIANA

Pick-Congress Hotel  
520 South Michigan Avenue  
427-3800  
(Wilson J. Hebert, Adjutant)

## MAINE

Sheraton-Chicago Hotel  
505 North Michigan Avenue  
944-4100  
(Anthony J. Rumo, Adjutant)

## MARYLAND

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Daniel H. Burkhardt, Adjutant)

## MASSACHUSETTS

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(John P. Swift, Adjutant)

## MEXICO

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Rudy Hough, Adjutant)



*Chicago's Conrad Hilton Hotel, one of the world's largest, will serve as headquarters hotel for the 54th Annual National Convention of The American Legion, Aug. 18-24. The National Commander, other National Officers and distinguished guests will be housed at the Hotel which also will be the site of most Convention Commission and Committee meetings, the National Commander's banquet for distinguished guests, and the temporary offices of the Legion's National Headquarters.*



**MICHIGAN**

Lake Tower Inn  
600 North Lake Shore Drive  
SU 7-4700  
(F. Gerrit Veldman, Adjutant)

**MINNESOTA**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Frank C. Momsen, Adjutant)

**MISSISSIPPI**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Thomas J. Kirk, Adjutant)

**MISSOURI**

Pick-Congress Hotel  
520 South Michigan Avenue  
427-3800  
(Lloyd E. "Ed" Johnson, Adjutant)

**MONTANA**

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(Stuart M. Hall, Adjutant)

**NEBRASKA**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Ray Oltman, Adjutant)

**NEVADA**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Dr. J.E. Martie, Adjutant)

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(Hubert S. O'Neil, Adjutant)

**NEW JERSEY**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Donald Gillis, Adjutant)

**NEW MEXICO**

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(John L. Martinez, Adjutant)

**NEW YORK**

Water Tower Hyatt House  
800 North Michigan Avenue  
943-5600  
Playboy Towers Hotel  
163 East Walton  
943-2000  
(Maurice Stember, Adjutant)

**NORTH CAROLINA**

Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel  
Michigan Avenue & Balbo  
427-4300  
(J. Carroll Wilson, Adjutant)

**NORTH DAKOTA**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Vernon Useldinger, Adjutant)

**OHIO**

Drake Hotel  
140 East Walton  
SU 7-2200  
(J.P. "Pat" Hone, Adjutant)

**OKLAHOMA**

Drake Hotel  
140 East Walton  
SU 7-2200  
(C.J. Wright, Adjutant)

**OREGON**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Ron Dreeszen, Adjutant)

**PANAMA**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(George A. Black, Adjutant)

**PENNSYLVANIA**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Edward T. Hoak, Adjutant)

**PHILIPPINES**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Manuel A. Vargas, Adjutant)

**PUERTO RICO**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Eduardo Cuchi Coll, Adjutant)

**RHODE ISLAND**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(John E. Tatro, Sr., Adjutant)

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel  
Michigan Avenue & Balbo  
427-4300  
(James A. Hamilton, Sr., Adjutant)

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Cyril J. Paul, Adjutant)

## **TENNESSEE**

Sheraton-Chicago Hotel  
505 North Michigan Avenue  
944-4100  
(Barney W. Greene, Adjutant)

## **TEXAS**

Pick-Congress Hotel  
520 South Michigan Avenue  
427-3800  
(W.H. McGregor, Adjutant)

## **UTAH**

Palmer House  
17 East Monroe Street  
726-7500  
(Dean C. Hall, Adjutant)

## **VERMONT**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(H. Carlyle Lawson, Adjutant)

## **VIRGINIA**

Sheraton-Blackstone Hotel  
Michigan Avenue & Balbo  
427-4300  
(Bernard H. Gollinger, Adjutant)

## **WASHINGTON**

Pick-Congress Hotel  
520 South Michigan Avenue  
427-3800  
(W.H. "Bill" Dunn, Adjutant)

## **WEST VIRGINIA**

Essex Inn  
800 South Michigan Avenue  
939-2800  
(Tommy E. Jones, Adjutant)

## **WISCONSIN**

Pick-Congress Hotel  
520 South Michigan Avenue  
427-3800  
(Robert G. Wilke, Adjutant)

## **WYOMING**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
720 South Michigan Avenue  
922-4400  
(Eugene Hirsch, Adjutant)

# **The American Legion National Emblem Sales Locations**

## **LEGION HEADQUARTERS HOTEL**

**Conrad Hilton Hotel**

Lobby-Outside  
National Hqtrs. Office  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17 THROUGH  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 24  
Open: 9:00 A.M. Daily

## **AUXILIARY HEADQUARTERS**

**Palmer House**

Mezzanine  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 18 THROUGH  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 24  
Open: 9:00 A.M. Daily

## **McCORMICK PLACE**

**Entrance Foyer**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, THROUGH  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 24  
Open: Daily During Sessions

*For Your Convenience During  
The 54th National Convention*

All locations will have a complete stock of American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary merchandise available. Among the many items are shirts, ties, uniform trousers, jackets, cap insignia, official jewelry, gift items, etc. A supply of CAPS lettered for all states, and a COMPLETE stock of blazers will be available at the CONRAD HILTON HOTEL ONLY.



**The American Legion**  
*National Emblem Sales*  
**P. O. Box 1055**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana 46206**



# **The American Legion 54th National Convention**

## **Meeting Room Assignments**

### **Standing Commissions and Committees**

(All meetings at The Conrad Hilton Hotel unless otherwise specified.)

#### **Americanism Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #2, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Daniel J. O'Connor  
Jackson Heights, New York.

#### **Americanism Screening Committee:**

Aug. 16 and 17, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #5, 3rd Floor.

#### **The American Legion—NEA Joint Committee:**

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.,  
Parlor 512, 5th Floor.

#### **Commission on Children & Youth:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #1, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Earl D. Franklin, Jr.  
Sterling, Colorado

#### **Constitution and By-Laws Committee:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
National Judge Advocate's office,  
National Headquarters office, Continental Room,  
1st Floor.  
Chairman: Judge Alfonse F. Wells  
Chicago, Illinois.

#### **Contest Supervisory Committee Headquarters:**

Aug. 7-24 — Convention Corporation,  
Room 418, 343 South Dearborn Street.

#### **Contest Committee Meetings:**

Aug. 16 and 17, 9:30 a.m., Wacker Room,  
6th Floor, Executive House Hotel,  
71 East Wacker Drive.  
Aug. 18, 9:30 a.m., Illinois Room,  
5th Floor, Executive House Hotel,  
71 East Wacker Drive.  
Aug. 22, 9:30 a.m., Wacker Room,  
6th Floor, Executive House Hotel,  
71 East Wacker Drive.  
Chairman: Deming Smith,  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

#### **Convention Commission:**

Aug. 18-24, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.,  
Parlor 412, 4th Floor.  
Chairman: James V. Demarest,  
New York, New York.

#### **Distinguished Guest Committee:**

Aug. 18-24, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.,  
Distinguished Guest Headquarters Suite.  
Chairman: William J. Rogers, Maine.  
Chairman Emeritus: Al Starshak,  
Chicago, Illinois.

#### **Economic Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #3, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Clarence C. Campbell,  
Barre, Vermont.

#### **Economic Screening Committee:**

Aug. 16 and 17, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #8, 3rd Floor.

#### **Emblem Committee:**

Aug. 17 and 18, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #10, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Clayton C. Schlick,  
Osage, Iowa.

#### **Finance Commission:**

Aug. 18-24, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.,  
National Adjutant's Suite.  
Chairman: Churchill T. Williams,  
Oelwein, Iowa.

#### **American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #5, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Albert V. LaBiche,  
New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Foreign Relations Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Parlor 415, 4th Floor.  
Chairman: Thomas E. Whelan  
St. Thomas, North Dakota.

**Internal Affairs Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Bel Air Room, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Donald J. Smith,  
St. Johns, Michigan.

**Legislative Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Parlor A, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Clarence C. Horton,  
Gulf Shores, Alabama.

**Membership and Post Activities Committee:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Astoria Room, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: William F. Gormley,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**National Security Commission:**

Aug. 19, 9:30 a.m. - Waldorf Room - 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: Emmett G. Lenihan  
Seattle, Washington.

**Public Relations Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m., Lower Summit,  
27th Floor.  
Chairman: C. D. DeLoach,  
Washington, D. C.

**Resolutions Assignment Committee:**

Aug. 17-21, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.,  
Parlor 534, Fifth Floor.  
Chairman: Alexander M. Geiger,  
Gaston, South Carolina.

**Spirit of '76 Committee:**

Aug. 19 and 20, 2:00p.m., each day  
Parlor C, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: John A. Jones,  
Weirton, West Virginia.

**The American Legion Magazine Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #4, 3rd Floor.  
Chairman: James E. Powers  
Macon, Georgia.

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m., Beverly Room,  
3rd Floor.  
Chairman: William F. Lenker,  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

**Special Committee on Veterans Medical Care:**

Aug. 18 and 19, 9:30 a.m., Parlor 513, 5th Floor  
Chairman: Emory L. O'Connell,  
Denver, Colorado.

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Screening Committee:**

Aug. 17-20, inclusive, 9:30 a.m.,  
Private Dining Room #9, 3rd Floor.

**National Executive Committee**

**August 20, 3:00 p.m.  
Grand Ballroom - 2nd Floor**

**Chairman: National Commander John H. Geiger  
Chicago, Illinois**



# NATIONAL CONTESTS

**Saturday and Sunday, August 19-20, 1972**

**Junior Color Guard Contest:**

Saturday, August 19, 8:00 a.m., Wells Field  
Northwestern University, Evanston

**American Legion Color Guard Contest:**

Sunday, August 20, 9:00 a.m., Wells Field  
Northwestern University, Evanston

**American Legion Firing Squad Contest:**

Sunday, August 20, following Senior Color Guard Contest, Wells Field, Northwestern University, Evanston Exact time to be announced at Representatives' Meeting, Friday, August 18.

**Junior Drill Team Contest:**

Sunday, August 20, following Firing Squad Contest, Wells Field, Northwestern University, Evanston

**Senior Drill Team Contest:**

Sunday, August 20, following Junior Drill Team Contest, Wells Field, Northwestern University, Evanston

**Junior Band Contest:**

Saturday, August 19, 9:00 a.m. Cahn Auditorium, Scott Hall Long Field, Northwestern University, Evanston

**American Legion Band Contest:**

Saturday, August 19, following Junior Band Contest, Cahn Auditorium, Scott Hall, Long Field, Northwestern University, Evanston

**American Legion Motorcycle**

**Drill Team Contest:**

Sunday, August 20, 9:00 a.m., South Parking Lot, Soldier Field

**Junior Drum & Bugle**

**Corps Preliminaries:**

Saturday and Sunday, August 19-20, 8:00 a.m., Dyche Stadium, Northwestern University

**American Legion Drum &**

**Bugle Corps Preliminaries:**

Sunday, August 20, following Jr. Drum & Bugle Corps Preliminaries—Time to be announced at Representatives' Meeting, Friday, August 18.

**American Legion Chorus**

**and Quartet Contest:**

Sunday, August 20, 9:00 a.m., Cahn Auditorium, Scott Hall, Northwestern University, Evanston.

**American Legion Drum**

**and Bugle Corps Finals**

**(Senior and Junior)**

**Parade of Champions:**

Sunday, August 20, 7:00 p.m., Soldier Field



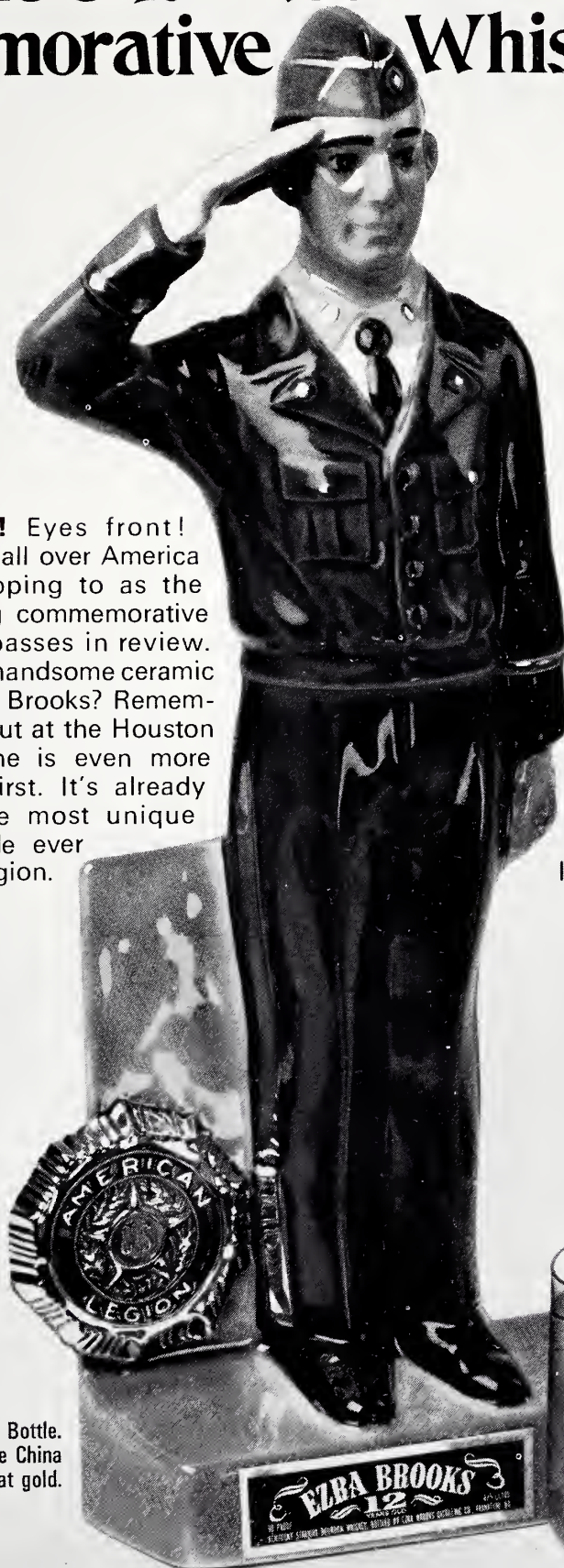
*Chicago's Soldier Field, the beautiful lakefront stadium that is the home of the Chicago Bears professional football team and for many years has been the scene of the annual college football All-Star game against the defending champions of professional football for Chicago Tribune Charities, will be the scene of the 1972 American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps contest finals and Parade of Champions.*



# Ezra Brooks Salutes the Legion With the 54th National Convention Commemorative Whiskey Bottle.

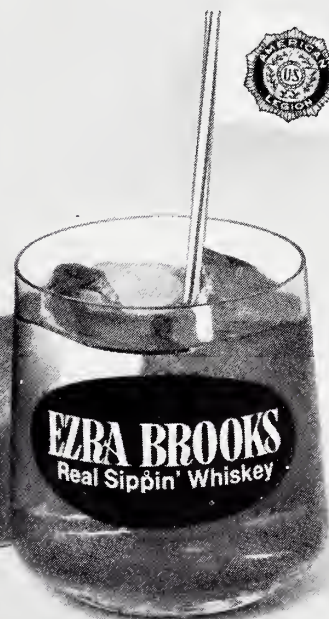


**Atten-tion!** Eyes front! Legionnaires all over America will be snapping to as the most exciting commemorative bottle ever created passes in review. Remember last year's handsome ceramic bottle created by Ezra Brooks? Remember how fast it sold out at the Houston Convention? This one is even more appealing than the first. It's already being hailed as the most unique commemorative bottle ever designed for the Legion.



The Legionnaire bottle is filled with our limited stock, 12 years old, 90 proof Real Sippin' Whiskey. It's destined to be a collector's item, because the original mold will be destroyed and no more will be made. It will go on sale at the National Convention in August, and will be available at most liquor stores throughout Chicago. But only while the limited quantities last.

The Legionnaire Bottle.  
Genuine Heritage China  
hand trimmed in 24 carat gold.





# Meetings of Convention Committees

(All meetings at The Conrad Hilton Hotel unless otherwise specified.)

The following Convention Committees will be composed of one delegate from each department. Initial meetings of Convention Committees will be at the time and place as shown below. Subsequent meetings will be at the call of the chairman.

(Meetings of Convention Committees normally will be closed to all except committee members.)

## Americanism

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Private Dining Room #2, 3rd Floor.  
(Baseball and Recreation Sub-Committee):  
Aug. 20, 10:30 a.m., Private Dining Room #5, 3rd Floor.  
(Education and Scholarship Sub-Committee):  
Aug. 20, 10:30 a.m., Private Dining Room #8, 3rd Floor.  
(Immigration and Naturalization Sub-Committee):  
Aug. 20, 10:30 a.m., Private Dining Room #10, 3rd Floor.  
(Counter-Subversive Activities Sub-Committee):  
Aug. 20, 10:30 a.m., Parlor 512, 5th Floor.  
(Boys State-Boys Nation, Youth Activities and Community Services Sub-Committee):  
Aug. 20, 10:30 a.m., Private Dining Room #2, 3rd Floor.

## Children and Youth

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Private Dining Room #1, 3rd Floor.

## Constitutional Amendments

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Upper Summit, 27th Floor.

## Credentials and Internal Affairs

(Credentials and Other Internal Matters):  
Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Bel Air Room, 3rd Floor.  
(Membership):  
Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Astoria Room, 3rd Floor.

## Economic

(Employment and Veterans Preference):  
Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Private Dining Room #4, 3rd Floor.  
(Other Economic Matters):  
Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Private Dining Room #3, 3rd Floor.

## Finance

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Lower Summit, 27th Floor.

## Foreign Relations

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor 415, 4th Floor.

## Legislation and Rules

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor A, 3rd Floor.

## National Security Committees Joint Meeting

(Aeronautics and Space, Civil Defense, Merchant Marine, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs):

Aug. 20, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., Waldorf Room, 3rd Floor.

(Aeronautics and Space):

Aug. 20, 11:00 a.m., and Aug. 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor 413, 4th Floor.

(Civil Defense):

Aug. 20, 11:00 a.m., and Aug. 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor 414, 4th Floor.

(Merchant Marine):

Aug. 20, 11:00 a.m., and Aug. 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor 418, 4th Floor.

(Military Affairs):

Aug. 20, 11:00 a.m., and Aug. 21, 10:00 a.m., Waldorf Room, 3rd Floor.

(Naval Affairs):

Aug. 20, 11:00 a.m., and Aug. 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor 419, 4th Floor.

## National Security Committees Joint Meeting

Aug. 22, 12:00 Noon, Parlor B - 3rd Floor

## Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation

(Claims and Rating):

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Parlor B, 3rd Floor.

(Hospitals and Medical Services):

Aug. 20 and 21, 10:00 a.m., Beverly Room, 3rd Floor.

## Sons of The American Legion Workshop and First National Convention

Aug. 19 and 20, 9:00 a.m., Boulevard Room, Center Section.

## Vietnam Veteran Legionnaire Workshop, Executive Section

(Meeting of Assigned Representatives of each Department)

Aug. 23, 9:30 a.m., 3rd Floor, Parlor C

(This is a workshop and is open to all Vietnam era Veteran Legionnaires in attendance at Convention.)

## Executive Session of Vietnam Veterans

Aug. 23, 9:00 a.m. - Parlor 418 - 4th Floor





**Eric H.  
Smith**



**Edward R.  
Delehanty**



**August C.  
Draeb**



**Richard H.  
Klinge**



**Robert L.  
Parker**



**Thomas  
Roumell**



**Arch C.  
Bonzer**



**T. Paxton  
Stephens, Jr.**



**Harry K.  
Stinger**



**Tommy E.  
Jones  
Advisory**



**George E.  
Osborne  
Advisory**



**Frank C.  
Momsen  
Advisory**

## ***The 1972 National Convention Commission***



**James V.  
Demarest  
Chairman**



**Lawrence E.  
Hoffman  
Vice Chairman**



**Willard L.  
Colbrook  
National Commander's  
Representative**

**Hugh B.  
Mott**  
(No Photo available)



**Dr. Almo J.  
Sebastianelli  
Consultant**



**Maurice  
Stember  
Consultant**



**Peter  
Nedzweckas  
Consultant**



**Robert H.  
Hazen  
Consultant**



**Aldo R.  
Benedetto  
Chairman  
NEC Liaison**



**Thomas J.  
Gear  
NEC Liaison**



**L.H.  
"Rennie"  
Baker  
NEC Liaison**



**Deming  
Smith  
Contest Supervisory  
Chairman**



**William J.  
Rogers  
Distinguished Guests  
Chairman**



**A.L.  
Starshak  
Chairman Emeritus  
Distinguished Guests**



**William H.  
Miller  
National Convention  
Director**



# REUNIONS AND DINNERS

## **NATIONAL COMMANDER'S DINNER FOR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
International Ballroom  
Monday, August 21 - 8:00 P.M.

---

## **AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY STATES DINNER**

Palmer House  
Grand Ballroom  
Wednesday, August 23 - 8:00 P.M.

---

## **AMERICAN LEGION PRESS ASSOCIATION (ALPA)**

Pick-Congress Hotel  
Awards Banquet  
Florentine Room  
Saturday, August 19 - 7:00 P.M.

Brunch (Executive Meeting)  
Shelby Room  
Sunday, August 20 - 10:00 A.M.

Department Press Association Meeting  
Plaza Room  
Sunday, August 20 - 1:00 P.M.

Meeting and Election of Officers  
Plaza Room  
Sunday, August 20 - 2:00 P.M.

---

## **THE NATIONAL YEOMAN F**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
Beverly Room  
Luncheon  
Tuesday, August 22 - 11:00 A.M.

---

## **PAST COMMANDERS LUNCHEON**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
International Ballroom  
Tuesday, August 22 - 12:30 P.M.

---

## **EIGHT AND FORTY**

LaSalle Hotel  
Grand Ballroom  
LaMarche Nationale Banquet  
Saturday, August 26 - 7:30 P.M.

---

## **HISTORIANS BREAKFAST**

Pick Congress Hotel  
Florentine Room  
Sunday, August 20 - 7:30 A.M.

---

## **TWENTY AND FOUR**

Midland Hotel  
Lincoln Parlors  
Committee Meetings and Registration  
Friday and Saturday - August 18 and 19

Presidential Ballroom  
Annual Bivouac Banquet  
Saturday, August 19 - 7:00 P.M.

---

## **FODPAL**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
Astoria Room  
Breakfast Meeting  
Tuesday, August 22 - 7:00 A.M.

---

## **ANAVICUS**

### **Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
Boulevard Room  
Sunday, August 20

11:00 A.M. - Business Meeting  
12:00 Noon - Reception  
1:00 P.M. - Luncheon

## **WORLD WAR NURSES BREAKFAST**

Midland Hotel  
Pershing Room Mezzanine  
August 20 - 10:00 A.M.

---

## **1954 AMERICAN LEGION COLLEGE CLASS BREAKFAST**

Conrad Hilton Hotel  
Private Dining Room No. 8  
Monday, August 21 - 7:00 A.M.



# **DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS FINALS AND PARADE OF CHAMPIONS**

**7:00 P.M., Sunday, August 20, 1972**

## **Soldier Field**

See the 12 finest American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps compete for The National Championships.

During the evening, four new Ford automobiles will be presented to members of The American Legion or the American Legion Auxiliary by the Seagram's Posts of The American Legion.

Nation Commander John H. Geiger will make the presentation of awards to the winning organizations.

## **GRAND FINALE**

### **Admission**

**\$3.00 Reserved Section**

**\$2.00 General Admission**

**Coupon in Convention Packet good for 50¢  
reduction on price of either admission.**

### **Transportation**

**Shuttle buses will operate between Soldier  
Field and Loop area hotels. Information on  
pick-up points available at registration-info  
booths.**

## **CONTEST MEETINGS**

Representatives of the competing units will meet in the Illinois Room, 5th Floor, Executive House Hotel, 71 E. Wacker Drive, Friday, August 18, to receive final official information and instructions at the times indicated below:

9:00 a.m. — Motorcycle Drill Teams

9:15 a.m. — Choruses and Quartets

9:30 a.m. — Bands

9:45 a.m. — Firing Squads

10:00 a.m. — Color Guards

10:30 a.m. — Drill Teams

10:45 a.m. — Drum and Bugle Corps

### **Official Protest Hearings**

Tuesday, August 22, 10:00 a.m.,  
Wacker Room, 6th Floor, Executive  
House Hotel, 71 E. Wacker Drive

### **Briefing of Judges**

Friday, August 18, 1:00 p.m.  
Oxford House, 2nd Floor,  
Montague Room, 225 N. Wabash

**54th National Convention  
Chicago, Illinois, August 18-24, 1972**



**The American Legion  
1972 National Convention Corporation of Illinois**

***Officers and Board of Directors***



**Harold A. Cummins**  
President



**Albert J. Swiderski**  
Vice President  
General Convention Chairman



**Eric H. Smith**  
Vice President  
Assistant General  
Convention Chairman



**Nick S. Livas**  
Vice President  
Assistant General  
Convention Chairman

**The American Legion**  
**1972 National Convention Corporation of Illinois**

***Officers and Board of Directors***



**John S. Gleason, Jr.**  
Treasurer



**Alfred H. Nelson**  
Assistant Treasurer



**Alfred C. Linenthal**  
General Counsel



**Frank C. Bottigliero**  
Secretary



# The American Legion

## 1972 National Convention Corporation of Illinois

### *Board of Directors*



**Norman Biebel**



**Hon. Floyd T. Fulle**



**John H. Geiger**



**Gen. Francis P. Kane**



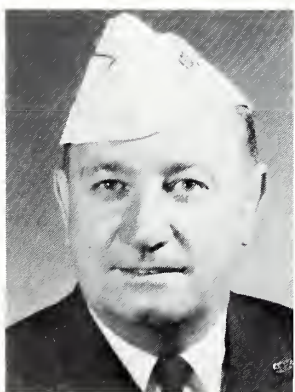
**Richard I. Nicholes**



**Louis Rosset**



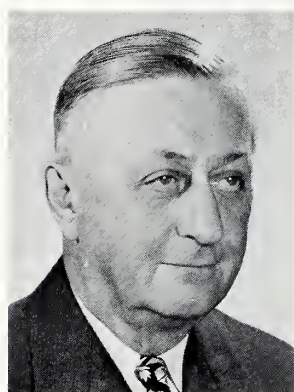
**Mrs. Charles Shaw**



**Edward A. Schalk**



**Ralph C. Scott**



**Al Starshak**



**Stanley A. Van Dyk**

# Honorary Officers

## *Honorary Presidents*



Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie



Honorable Richard J. Daley



Honorable George W. Dunne

## *Honorary Directors*



Emmet J. Cleary



Mrs. Marie Suthers



Joseph F. Novotny



# Church Directory

## CHURCHES

*Places of worship within one mile of downtown Chicago. Churches of other denominations are listed in Hotel directories and in Chicago's Yellow Pages.*

### **CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHICAGO (nondenominational)**

ORCHESTRA HALL  
220 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE  
332-4840

### **CHRISTIAN SCIENCE**

17TH CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST  
55 EAST WACKER DRIVE  
236-4671

### **CHURCH OF CHRIST (nondenominational)**

CENTRAL YMCA BUILDING  
19 SO. LA SALLE STREET  
539-6424

### **EPISCOPAL**

CATHEDRAL OF ST. JAMES  
666 NO. RUSH STREET  
787-7360

### **GREEK ORTHODOX**

ANNUNCIATION GREEK  
1017 NO. LA SALLE STREET  
664-5485

### **JEWISH ORTHODOX**

CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE  
16 SO. CLARK STREET  
346-7370

### **LUTHERAN IN AMERICA**

CHRIST THE KING  
LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE LOOP  
25 W. JACKSON BLVD.  
939-2512

### **METHODIST**

CHICAGO TEMPLE,  
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
77 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
336-4548

### **PRESBYTERIAN**

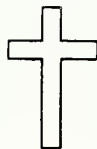
FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN  
126 EAST CHESTNUT STREET  
787-4570

### **ROMAN CATHOLIC**

HOLY NAME CATHEDRAL  
730 N. WABASH AVENUE  
787-8040

OLD ST. MARY'S CHURCH  
23 E. VAN BUREN  
922-3444

ST. PETER'S CHURCH  
110 W. MADISON  
FR. 2-5111



# OFFICIAL PROGRAM

## FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

## OF

## THE AMERICAN LEGION



The fifty-third Annual National Convention of The American Legion is shown here in session in Houston, Texas' Sam Houston Coliseum, Aug. 27-Sept. 2, 1971.



# STANDING RULES OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

The following are the Standing Rules of the National Convention as contained in the "UNIFORM CODE OF PROCEDURE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL CONVENTIONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION," authorized under Article V, Section 6, of the National Constitution of The American Legion.

## STANDING RULES OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

1. Robert's Revised Rules of Order shall be the authority on parliamentary procedure, with the following modifications:
2. A delegate desiring to make a motion or address the Convention, shall rise, address the Chair as "Mr. Commander" and state his name and the name of the Department before proceeding.
3. Debate shall be limited to five minutes for each speaker.
4. Debate on any one subject presented to the Convention shall be limited to two hours except under such special rule as the Convention shall adopt prior to debate.
5. But two delegates from any one delegation shall be permitted the floor on any one question. Where disagreement exists within a delegation one delegate shall be permitted to speak on each side of the question. Upon a division of the question, however, this rule shall be applied separately for each division.
6. The floor shall be permitted but once to any individual delegate on any one question, except by a two-thirds vote of the Convention. Chairmen of Convention Committees may speak as frequently as may be necessary in connection with the reports of their committees. The Presiding Officer shall not entertain any motion which will curtail further debate without affording the Committee Chairman an opportunity for rebuttal.
7. Decisions on Rules of Debate or parliamentary order by the Presiding Officer may be subject to appeal by any two delegates under a Point of Order. Such appeal shall take precedence over any pending questions and shall be decided forthwith. An appeal from the decision of the Chair shall be put to the Convention on the question: "Shall the Chair be sustained?"
8. When the poll of any Department Delegation is demanded by a delegate of such department, the Convention Secretary shall poll the vote without discussion of the question being voted upon.
9. On the Roll Calls, the delegation Chairman shall poll his delegation on the floor and announce its vote.
10. In the event a delegation secretary is not an accredited delegate or alternate, he shall be seated with his delegation.
11. Past National Commanders' votes shall be cast with their delegations.
12. Only accredited delegates or their alternates, shall participate, directly or indirectly, in a viva voce vote on any subject before the convention.
13. Department delegations may arrive at a vote in such manner as they choose, but shall announce it in terms of full units and not in terms of a fractional part of a vote. The vote of any delegate absent and not represented by an alternate shall be cast by the majority of the delegates present from his Department.
14. There shall be no unit rule of voting.
15. Voting shall be by acclamation, except when a Roll Call is demanded by the Chairman of at least three Departments. Election of National Officers shall be by roll call.
16. In the event a Department has not provided the method by which alternates shall be designated to serve in the place of absent delegates, the Chairman of the delegation shall make such designation.
17. Prior to the election of National Officers, the National Commander shall appoint, subject to approval of the Convention, a Judge of Election and such number of tellers as he deems necessary, provided that the total tellers so appointed shall be an odd number. In a contested election each candidate going to the ballot shall be entitled to one teller of his choice.
18. Nominations for National Officers shall be from the floor on Roll Call of the Departments alphabetically arranged. Each Department may present as many candidates as it chooses.

19. Nominating speeches for National Officers shall be limited to five minutes each. Not more than two seconding speeches shall be made for any candidate, and said speeches shall be limited to three minutes.
20. When more than two candidates are nominated for any office, balloting shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes of the Convention, except in the election of National Vice-Commanders.
21. In a contested election for National Vice Commanders, balloting shall continue until (a) majorities and (b) pluralities are established for one or more candidates under the following provisions:  
If, on any ballot taken, less than five candidates receive the necessary majority to elect, the candidate or candidates receiving a majority vote shall be declared elected and a new ballot shall be taken for the remaining number of places to be filled. The candidate receiving the lowest number of votes on the preceding ballot shall be disqualified; except should two candidates remain to fill one place, a new ballot shall be taken.
22. The Convention will nominate and elect a National Commander, five National Vice Commanders, and a National Chaplain, in this sequence.
23. At the conclusion of balloting on National Vice Commanders, each Department Delegation Chairman shall deliver a written ballot to the tellers. Such ballots shall be in the hands of the tellers before communication is made to the National Commander for announcement of the results.
24. Those recognized by the National Commander shall be entitled to a respectful hearing, and the Chair shall have the authority to clear the gallery or the floor or have the Sergeant-at-Arms escort from the Convention any one creating a disturbance or interfering with orderly procedure.
25. None of the above rules shall be construed as preventing an alternate delegate from serving on a Convention committee.
26. The consent of two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention is necessary for suspension of the standing rules of the Convention.
27. Any amendment to any resolution or report originating on the floor shall be presented in writing and transmitted to the Presiding Officer at the time of the introduction of such amendment.
28. Special rules applying to specific issues or order of business, shall be written and presented to the Convention by the Legislation and Rules Committee for adoption by majority vote at least one hour before such issue, or order, is to be considered unless such rule is agreed to by unanimous consent of the final session.  
Special rules shall prevail only in the Convention adopting them.  
Any delegate may apply for a special rule to the Legislation and Rules Committee or may appeal to the Convention for such special rule provided the rule be presented in writing, be read once from the platform, and shall lay upon the table at least one hour before the vote thereon is taken.

## ***Special Business Sessions***

**Tuesday, August 22, 1972, 9:30 a.m.—Noon**

### **The Conrad Hilton Hotel**

**VETERAN NEEDS AND THE AMERICAN LEGION—Boulevard Room**

**YOUTH AND THE AMERICAN LEGION—Grand Ballroom**

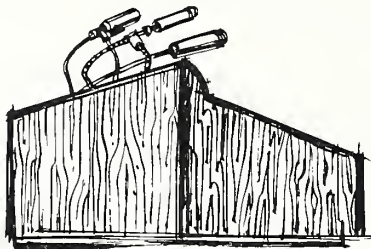
**DEFENSE & INTERNATIONAL ISSUES AND THE AMERICAN LEGION—Parlor B—3rd Floor**

**VIETNAM VETERANS AND THE AMERICAN LEGION—Parlor C—3rd Floor**

(This session will re-convene at 1:30 p.m.)



**AGENDA**  
**54TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION OF**  
**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**McCORMICK PLACE**  
**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**



**TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 1972**

**5:30 p.m.**

**CONCERT**

Joliet Legion Band, Joliet Post No. 1284,  
Joliet, Illinois

**6:00 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*

**ADVANCEMENT OF COLORS**

"Little Bills" Sr. Color Guard of Commonwealth  
Edison Post No. 118, Chicago, Illinois

**STAR-SPANGLED BANNER**

Joliet Legion Band, Joliet Post No. 1284,  
Joliet, Illinois

**INVOCATION**

Reverend Paul J. Schwaab (Nebraska),  
*National Chaplain*

**PREAMBLE TO THE AMERICAN  
LEGION CONSTITUTION**

John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*

**CALL FOR CONVENTION**

William F. Hauek (Indiana), *National Adjutant*

*NOTE: The National Executive Committee will meet within twenty-four hours after the close of the Convention, upon call of the National Commander.*

**6:30 p.m.**

**GREETINGS**

Harold A. Cummins, *President*,  
The American Legion 1972 National  
Convention Corporation of Illinois

The Honorable Richard J. Daley, *Mayor of Chicago*

Mrs. Robert L. Parker (Oklahoma),  
*National President*, American Legion Auxiliary

Donald E. Johnson, *Administrator of Veterans Affairs*

The Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie,  
*Governor of Illinois*

Robert G. Smellie, *Dominion President*,  
The Royal Canadian Legion

**7:00 p.m.**

**NATIONAL COMMANDER'S REPORT**

John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*

**7:15 p.m.**

**PRESENTATION** of Medallion to the City  
of Houston, Texas, the city in which the  
1971 National Convention was held

By: Alfred P. Chamie (California),  
*Past National Commander*

To: The Honorable Louie Welch, *Mayor*,  
Houston, Texas

**7:30 p.m.**

**PRESENTATION**

Distinguished Service Medal

By: John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*

To: DeWitt Wallace, *Co-Chairman*, **READER'S DIGEST**

**8:00 p.m.**

**PRESENTATION**

Distinguished Service Medal

By: John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*

To: The Honorable John Cornelius Stennis  
(Mississippi), United States Senate

**8:30 p.m.**

Report of **CREDENTIALS AND  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS** (except resolutions)

**SALUTE TO COLORS**

**RECESS**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1972**

**9:00 a.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*

**SALUTE TO COLORS**

**INVOCATION**

Reverend Paul J. Schwaab (Nebraska),  
*National Chaplain*

**GREETINGS**

Edward A. Schalk, *Past Department Commander*,  
The American Legion of Illinois  
Hugh P. Haugherty, *President*,  
The Society of American Legion Founders

**9:15 a.m.**

**Report of CREDENTIALS AND  
INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Credentials and Other Internal Matters  
Membership  
Vietnam Veterans and The American Legion

**INTRODUCTION**—Sons of The American  
Legion Representative

**GREETINGS**

James M. Mayer, *President*, National Association  
of Collegiate Veterans, Inc.

**9:30 a.m.**

**Report of LEGISLATION AND RULES**  
(Matters of Legislative)

**9:45 a.m.**

**REMARKS**

C. A. Hoffman, M.D., *President*, American  
Medical Association

**10:00 a.m.**

**PRESENTATION** of Representatives  
of The American Legion Youth Programs  
Oratorical Contest Winner - Thomas W. Joiner  
(South Carolina)  
President, 1972 Boys Nation - Gregory L. Hack  
(Kansas)  
1972 National Explorer President, Boy Scouts  
of America-Larry Eisenberg (Illinois)  
American Legion Baseball "Player of the Year"  
Randy G. Haas (California)  
Outstanding Boy of Boys' Clubs of America  
Rodrigo Guerra, Jr. (California)

**Report of AMERICANISM**

**10:30 a.m.**

**PRESENTATIONS**

Special Citation-Baseball Drug Booklet

By: John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*  
To: Bowie K. Kuhn, *Commissioner of Baseball*

William Randolph Hearst Americanism Trophy

By: J. W. Andrews, Jr., *Vice President*,  
Hearst Newspapers, Chicago Office  
To: Winning Department

Certificate of Appreciation

By: John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*  
To: Reverend Paul J. Schwaab (Nebraska),  
*National Chaplain*

**11:00 a.m.**

**ADDRESS**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Report of VETERANS AFFAIRS  
AND REHABILITATION**

Claims and Rating  
Hospitals and Medical Services

**Report of SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS MEDICAL CARE**

**12:00 Noon**

**RECESS**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Report of ECONOMIC**  
Employment and Veterans Preference  
Other Economic Matters

**2:00 p.m.**

**PRESENTATION**—"Employer of the Year  
Award for Hiring Veterans"

By: John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*  
To: I. J. Holton, President, Geo. A.  
Hormel & Co., Austin, Minnesota  
To: Harold L. Collier, President, A.B. &  
J.R. Hodgkins, Bar Harbor, Maine

**2:15 p.m.**

**ADDRESS**

Thomas H. Moorer, Admiral, USN, Chairman,  
Joint Chiefs of Staff



**2:45 p.m.**

Report of CHILDREN & YOUTH  
PRESENTATION of Special Citation-Drug Education  
and Prevention Program  
By: John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*  
To: Pete Rozelle, Commissioner of  
the National Football League

**3:15 p.m.**

ADDRESS  
George Meany, President, AFL-CIO

**3:30 p.m.**

Report of FINANCE

**3:45 p.m.**

Report of CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS  
SALUTE TO COLORS  
RECESS

## **THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1972**

**9:00 a.m.**

CALL TO ORDER  
John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*  
SALUTE TO COLORS  
INVOCATION  
Reverend Paul J. Schwaab (Nebraska),  
*National Chaplain*

**9:15 a.m.**

Report of FOREIGN RELATIONS

**10:00 a.m.**

PRESENTATION  
The American Legion Fourth Estate Award  
By: John H. Geiger (Illinois), *National Commander*  
To: Agustin E. Edwards, former Publisher of  
EL MERCURIO, Santiago, Chile, and Past  
President of Inter-American Press Association



**10:15 a.m.**

Report of NATIONAL SECURITY  
Military  
Naval  
Aeronautics and Space  
Civil Defense  
Merchant Marine

**11:00 a.m.**

ADDRESS

**11:30 a.m.**

PRESENTATION OF PLAQUE AND COLORS TO  
OUTGOING NATIONAL COMMANDER

By: John S. Gleason, Jr. (Illinois),  
*Past National Commander*  
Response by: John H. Geiger (Illinois),  
*National Commander*

**12:00 Noon**

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS  
National Commander

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY NEWLY ELECTED  
NATIONAL COMMANDER

Five (5) National Vice Commanders  
National Chaplain

**1:00 p.m.**

PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO  
INCOMING NATIONAL COMMANDER

RESPONSE BY NEWLY ELECTED  
NATIONAL COMMANDER

PRESENTATION OF NEWLY  
ELECTED NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

BENEDICTION

RETIREMENT OF COLORS

FINAL ADJOURNMENT

**NOTE:** The National Executive Committee will meet within twenty-four hours after the close of the Convention, upon call of the National Commander.

# Distinguished Guests

**Henry Albert**  
Deputy Executive Assistant  
to the Postmaster General

**Gene Allison**  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**A. Leo Anderson**  
Washington, D.C.

**L. J. Andolsek, Commissioner**  
United States Civil Service Commission

**J. W. Andrews, Jr., Vice President**  
Hearst Newspapers, Chicago Office

**A. H. Atkinson, President**  
The Bronze Craft Corporation

**Mrs. Catharine Barrett, President**  
National Education Association

**C. Randolph Beard, Jr., President**  
Annin & Company

**Joseph R. Beever**  
United States Department of Labor

**John Bergin, Vice President**  
Battin, Barton, Durstine & Osborne

**Joseph A. Bernard**  
National Secretary-Treasurer  
The Society of American  
Legion Founders

**Bruce Besten**  
Vice President and General Manager  
Fawcett Printing Corporation

**Norman J. Biebel**  
Belleville, Illinois

**Russell P. Bieritz**  
Geneva, Illinois

**William R. Blackwell**  
Area 3 Field Director  
Veterans Administration

**Frank C. Bottiglieri, Secretary**  
1972 National Convention  
Corporation of Illinois

**Frank M. Brandstetter**  
Acapulco, Mexico

**William R. Bricker, National Director**  
Boys' Clubs of America

**John C. Brogan, Chairman of the Board**  
Youngberg-Carlson Company

**P. J. Budd**  
Chief Data Management Director  
Veterans Administration

**Col. John T. Carlton, Executive Director**  
Reserve Officers Association

**Alfred P. Chamie**  
Past National Commander  
The American Legion

**Dr. John Chase**  
Associate Deputy Chief Medical Director  
Veterans Administration

**Gerard W. Cheffer**  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois

**Atilano R. Cinco, Administrator**  
Philippine Veterans Administration

**Harold L. Collier, President**  
A.B. & J.R. Hodgkins Company

**Honorable Harold R. Collier (Illinois)**  
House of Representatives

**Joseph A. Connor**  
Director, Regional Office  
United States Civil Service Commission

**Russell J. Conway**  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**John J. Corcoran**  
The General Counsel  
Veterans Administration

**George H. Cornelius, Jr.**  
Cornelius Printing Company

**Col. James C. Craig,**  
National Vice President  
Reserve Officers Association

**Harold A. Cummins, President**  
1972 National Convention Corporation of  
Illinois

**Honorable Richard J. Daley**  
Mayor of Chicago, Illinois

**James V. Day**  
Washington, D. C.

**Mr. and Mrs. Clarence DeBaets**  
Chicago, Illinois

**Capt. S. T. DeLaMater**  
Department of the Navy

**Lawrence DiPrima**  
Chicago, Illinois

**Herbert A. Doyle, Jr.**  
United States Department of Labor

**Maurice E. Druhl**  
Portland, Oregon

**Henry H. Dudley**  
Past National Adjutant  
The American Legion

**George W. Dunne, President**  
Cook County Board of Commissioners

**Agustin E. Edwards**  
Greenwich, Connecticut

**Larry Eisenberg, Rock Island, Illinois**  
1972 National Explorer President  
Boy Scouts of America

**Luca Fantaccione, President**  
Leavens Manufacturing Co., Inc.

**William J. Flynn, Vice President**  
United States Life Insurance Company

**Dr. Joseph Frankel, Director**  
Veterans Administration West Side Hospital

**Lawrence Gayle**  
Assistant Postmaster General

**Carl H. Geiger**  
**John W. Geiger**  
**Laura S. Geiger**  
**Lois E. Geiger**  
**Vivienne L. Geiger**  
Des Plaines, Illinois

**Charles H. Gihbons**  
Park Ridge, Illinois

**Major General Robert N. Ginshurgh**  
Office of Secretary of the Air Force

**John S. Gleason, Jr.**  
Past National Commander  
The American Legion

**Robert C. Goodwin**  
United States Department of Labor

**E. J. Gorman**  
Manager, Administrative Services  
Veterans Administration

**Oscar Greene**  
Schenley Industries, Inc.

**Rodrigo Guerra, Jr., Pasadena, California**  
Outstanding Boy of Boys' Clubs of America

**Randy G. Haas, West Covina, California**  
American Legion Baseball Player of the Year

**Gregory L. Hack, Lawrence, Kansas**  
President, 1972 Boys Nation

**Stella B. Hackel, President**  
Interstate Conference of Employment  
Security Agencies

**Robert E. Hampton**  
United States Civil Service Commission

**Hugh P. Haugherty, National President**  
The Society of American Legion Founders

**Mrs. Edward A. Hayes**  
Chicago, Illinois



# Distinguished Guests

**C. A. Hoffman, M.D., President**  
American Medical Association

**I. J. Holton, President**  
Geo. A. Hormel & Co.

**Col. Frank T. Huray, Commander**  
American Forces Radio and Television Service

**S. L. Jcrpbak**  
The Society of American Legion Founders

**Donald E. Johnson, Administrator**  
Veterans Administration

**Thomas W. Joiner, Rock Hill, South Carolina**  
1972 National Oratorical Contest Winner

**General Francis P. Kane**  
Chicago, Illinois

**Al Keller, Jr.**  
Kankakee, Illinois

**Colin Keon-Cohen**  
Melbourne, Australia

**Henry King, President**  
United States Brewers Association, Inc.

**Major John Klose**  
Department of the Army

**Bowie K. Kuhn**  
Commissioner of Baseball

**Major Glenard E. Lanier**  
Falls Church, Virginia

**William A. Lee**  
WCFL-LABOR, Chicago, Illinois

**Roland V. Libonati**  
Chicago, Illinois

**Albert C. Lincenthal**  
1972 National Convention  
Corporation of Illinois

**Art Linkletter**  
Beverly Hills, California

**John Linton, Administrator**  
Bureau of Employment Security

**Nicholas S. Livas**  
1972 National Convention  
Corporation of Illinois

**John A. Llewelyn**  
Occidental Life Insurance  
Company of California

**Edward C. Logelin**  
Association of United States Army

**Jack Lucey**  
American Red Cross

**J. C. Lundberg, Dominion President**  
Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans in Canada

**W. H. MacDonald**  
Special Assistant to Administrator  
Veterans Administration

**Frank Maier**  
Bureau Chief - NEWSWEEK

**Col. Joseph Malcolm, USMC**  
Policy Analysis Division

**Capt. Joseph E. Malloy, USAF**  
Civil Branch, Community Relations

**Robert M. Marr**  
Indianapolis, Indiana

**August A. Martorana**  
Chicago, Illinois

**James M. Mayer, President**  
National Association of Collegiate Veterans,  
Inc.

**Col. Joseph J. McCarthy, USMCR (Ret.)**  
Congressional Medal of Honor Society

**Mrs. Zella McCurdy**  
Pasadena, California

**Edward F. McGinnis**  
Washington, D. C.

**James McGuire**  
Superintendent of Illinois State Police

**John J. McGuire**  
United States Civil Service Commission

**Raymond J. McHugh**  
Copley News Service

**Joseph L. McKernan**  
The Leterman-Gortz Corporation

**George Meany, President**  
AFL-CIO

**D. C. Meenan**  
United Air Lines

**John G. Miller, Director**  
Veterans Assistance Centers  
and Administrative Service  
Veterans Administration

**Robert W. Mitchler**  
Oswego, Illinois

**Roy K. Moore**  
Special Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

**Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN,**  
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

**Robert Murphy**  
Chelmsford, Massachusetts

**John B. Naser**  
Chicago, Illinois

**Alfred H. Nelson**  
1972 National Convention  
Corporation of Illinois

**Richard I. Nicholes**  
Danville, Illinois

**Morris Nooner, Jr., Acting Director**  
Education and Rehabilitation Service  
Veterans Administration

**John J. O'Brien, President**  
Youngberg-Carlson Company

**Romulo O'Farrill, Jr.**  
Mexico City, Mexico

**Mrs. Ralph T. O'Neil**  
Topeka, Kansas

**Thomas O'Shea, President**  
Ezra Brooks Company, Inc.

**Daniel R. O'Sullivan**  
Seagram Distillers Company

**Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie**  
Governor of Illinois

**Olney B. Owen**  
Chief Benefits Director  
Veterans Administration

**Mrs. Robert L. Parker, National President**  
American Legion Auxiliary

**Major General Harold R. Patton**  
The Adjutant General  
State of Illinois

**J. C. Peckarsky**  
Deputy Chief Benefits Director  
Veterans Administration

**Russell E. Pennell, Sr., President**  
United States Civil Defense Council

**L. R. Pierce, Jr., Chairman**  
Board of Veterans Appeals  
Veterans Administration

**Major Richard Rambo**  
Indiana State Police

**John R. Reitemeyer**  
HARTFORD COURANT

**George F. Repp**  
Wood-Repp Company

**E. W. Ridgway**  
Employment Security Department  
State of South Dakota

**Mrs. James P. Ringley**  
Chicago, Illinois

**William J. Rogers**  
Washington, D. C.

**Mr. and Mrs. Michael Rosborough**  
Urbana, Illinois

**Pete Rozelle, Commissioner**  
National Football League

**Robert H. Ruffner**  
The President's Committee on  
Employment of the Handicapped

**James S. Rule**  
American Society of Composers, Authors  
and Publishers

**Comdr. John M. Rusch, USN**  
Assistant Director  
Community Relations Division

**Colonel Daniel Ruskin, USA, Chief**  
Veterans and Civic National  
Organizations Division

**Billie Saxon**  
Anderson, Indiana

**Edward Schalk**  
Immediate Past Department Commander  
The American Legion of Illinois

**Earnest N. Schmit**  
Past National Adjutant  
The American Legion

**Dr. Lee H. Schlesinger, Director**  
Veterans Administration Hospital  
Hines, Illinois

**Martin L. Schnider, President**  
Northern Virginia Savings  
and Loan Association

**Gen. Frank R. Schwengel**  
Scarsdale, New York

**Charles Sclafani**  
Schenley Industries, Inc.

**Ralph C. Scott**  
Carlyle, Illinois

**Bob Sellick, Sr.**  
Pepsi Cola Company

**Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shaw**  
Mattoon, Illinois

**Robert G. Smellie**  
Dominion President  
The Royal Canadian Legion

**Eric H. Smith**  
Broadview, Illinois

**William L. Smith, General Manager**  
Conrad Hilton Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois

**Mrs. Emily Snyder**  
Chicago, Illinois

**Frank Specht**  
Sumner, Maryland

**Al Starshak**  
Chicago, Illinois

**Anthony Stasio**  
Small Business Administration

**Honorable John C. Stennis (Mississippi)**  
United States Senate

**Albert J. Swiderski**  
1972 National Convention  
Corporation of Illinois

**Benjamin I. Trotter, Jr.**  
United States Department of Labor

**Charles M. Turner, Director**  
VA Research Hospital

**Brig. General Robert D. Upp**  
National President  
Reserve Officers Association

**DeWitt Wallace**  
READER'S DIGEST

**Philip V. Warman**  
Associate General Counsel  
Veterans Administration

**Honorable John Warner**  
Secretary of the Navy

**John C. A. Watkins, President**  
PROVIDENCE JOURNAL

**S. P. Weinberg, President**  
S. Abrahams & Co. Inc.

**Honorable Louie Welch**  
Mayor of Houston, Texas

**Lloyd Wendt, Editor and Publisher**  
CHICAGO TODAY

**Oscar Wenstrand**  
The Society of American Legion Founders

**Howard W. West**  
United States Department of Labor

**Frank W. Whotton**  
Executive Vice President  
Fawcett Printing Corporation

**Rufus H. Wilson**  
Associate Deputy Administrator  
Veterans Administration

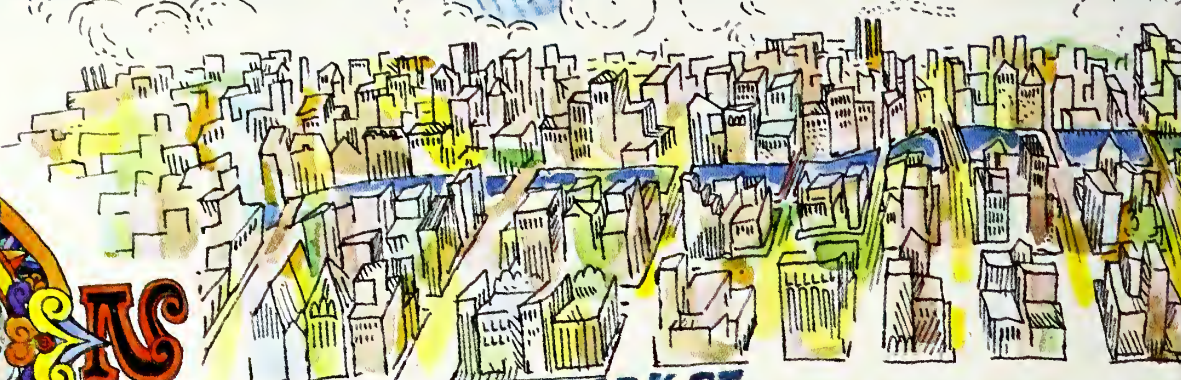
**THE** *Conrad Hilton* 1972 Convention Headquarters  
salutes the  
**AMERICAN LEGION**

William Smith/General Manager      Harold Nichols/Manager  
720 South Michigan Avenue/Chicago/(312) WA 2-4400





SEAGRAM'S 7 CROWN, BLENDED WHISKY, 86 PROOF, 65% GRAIN NEUTRAL SPIRITS, SEAGRAM'S V.O., CANADIAN WHISKY - A BLEND OF SELECTED WHISKIES, 16 YEARS OLD, 86.8 PROOF, SEAGRAM'S EXTRA DRY GIN, 90 PROOF, DISTILLED DRY GIN, DISTILLED FROM AMERICAN GRAIN, SEAGRAM'S CROWN ROYAL, BLENDED CANADIAN WHISKY, 86 PROOF, SEAGRAM'S 100 PIPERS, BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY, 86 PROOF, SEAGRAM'S DISTILLERS COMPANY, N.Y.C., SEAGRAM'S BENCHMARK KENTUCKY STRAIGHT BOURBON WHISKY, 86 PROOF, JOSEPH E. SEAGRAM & SONS, LOUISVILLE, KY.



S. CLARK ST.

S. DEARBORN ST.

S. STATE ST.

S. WABASH ST.

S. MICHIGAN AVE.

HILTON HOTEL  
NAT'L. CONVENTION  
HDQTS.

8TH ST.

BALBO ST.

HARRISON ST.

CONGRESS ST.

VAN BUREN ST.

JACKSON BLVD.

ADAMS ST.

MONROE ST.

PALMER HOUSE  
AUXILIARY  
HDQTS.

PARADE

REVIEWING STAND

ART INSTITUTE

COLUMBUS DRIVE

DISBANDING AREA

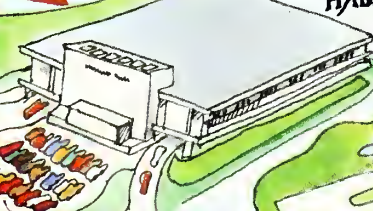


S. LAKE SHORE DRIVE

SOLDIER FIELD -  
DRUM & BUGLE CORPS  
CONTEST AND  
SEAGRAM'S FORD  
AWARDS

S. LAKE SHORE DRIVE

TO MCCORMACK PLACE  
CONVENTION HALL



Lake Michigan



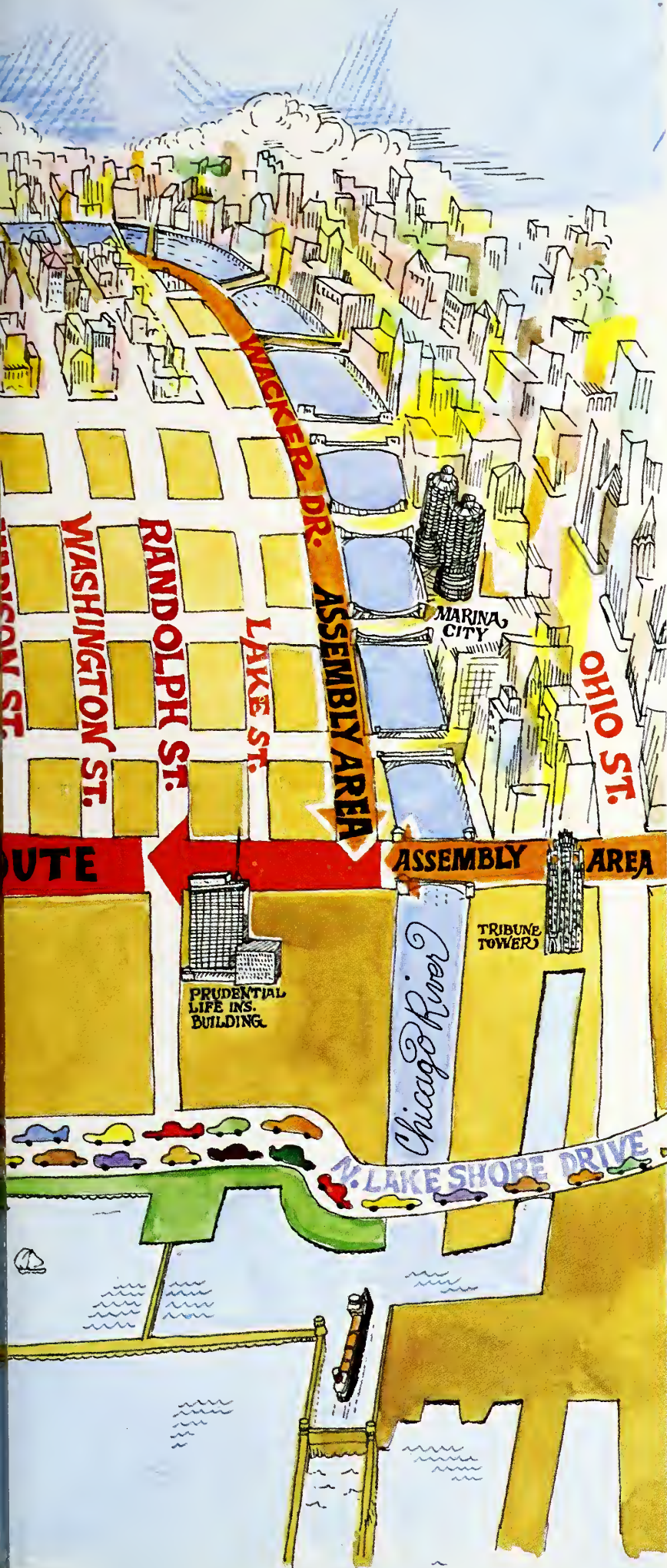
# The parade's a breeze in Chicago.

Seagram Distillers, in cooperation with the Legion, has made this colorful map of the Windy City to show you the parade route at the 54th Annual Convention.

There'll be real excitement at Soldier Field in Chicago, Illinois, on Sunday, August 20, 1972 when four happy people discover they've won new Ford Galaxie 500 2-door hardtops donated by the Seagram Posts. The drawings will be held during the Drum and Bugle Corps finals.

And here's the plan for this year's parade. Marchers will assemble on Wacker Drive between Lake Street and Michigan Avenue, and also on Michigan between Ohio Street and Wacker Drive (the orange area on the map). The parade begins at 10 A.M. on Monday, August 21st, and proceeds south along Michigan Avenue, past the reviewing stand, then left on Balbo Street to the disbanding area.

Say Seagram's and Be Sure.







**FOR SAKE OF GOD AND COUNTRY  
TURN OUR COUNTRY BACK TO GOD!**

*Let it begin with you. . .ATTEND. . .*

# **PATRIOTIC RELIGIOUS SERVICE**

1 P.M.

Sunday, August 20, 1972

## **CONRAD HILTON HOTEL**

720 South Michigan Avenue  
International Ballroom (Second floor)  
Chicago, Illinois

### **PLACING OF WREATHS:**

*National Commander*, JOHN H. GEIGER  
*National Adjutant*, WILLIAM F. HAUCK  
*National President, Auxiliary*, MRS. ROBERT L.  
(BERTHA) PARKER  
*National Secretary, Auxiliary*, MISS DORIS ANDERSON

Responsorial Psalm. . .Ps. XXXIV: 11-22 By Leader  
*Congregation Response. . . "Who is the man that desires  
life; who loves to see good days?"*  
FR. JEROME KLINGSPOHN, C. R., *Past Chaplain*, Franklin D.  
Roosevelt Post No. 923.  
Stand for the Word of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the  
pen of John XV: 8-17

### **"MAY NOW THY SPIRIT"**

*Antiphon: (Leader and People)*  
*"Who is the man who desires life; who loves to see good  
days? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking  
guile. Turn away from evil and do good; seek after peace,  
and pursue it." PS. XXXIV 12-13*

### **ADDRESS:**

*American Legion National Chaplain*, FR. PAUL J. SCHWAAB

### **OUR DEDICATION TO OUR GOD**

Making our lives a present to God

### **INVOKING GOD TO BE PRESENT TO US:**

*National Chaplain*, FR. PAUL J. SCHWAAB

### **"LORD'S PRAYER"**

### **FINAL PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**

*National Chaplain*, FR. PAUL J. SCHWAAB

### **"LAUDAMUS"**

RABBI ALBERT M. SHULMAN, *Past National Chaplain*,  
Ecclesiastes III: 1-8  
MRS. LESTER L. (KAY) NIMON, *National Chaplain*  
*Auxiliary*, Saint Paul Letter to Corinthians XIII: 1-7  
Saint Paul Letter to Corinthians XIII: 1-7

### **"BATTLE HYMN OF REPUBLIC"**

*Commander, Adjutant, President and Secretary followed  
by Department dignitaries. . .begin departure*

*All vocal presentations are by the Singing Legionnaires,  
Post No. 15, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Donald J. Peterson, Director.*





# Past National Commanders



## The American Legion 1919-1971

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| *Franklin D'Olier<br>Pennsylvania 1919-20        | Raymond J. Kelly<br>Michigan 1939-40        | William R. Burke<br>California 1960-61  |
| **Frederick W. Galbraith, Jr.<br>Ohio 1920-21    | *Milo J. Warner<br>Ohio 1940-41             | Charles L. Bacon<br>Missouri 1961-62  |
| ***John G. Emery<br>Michigan 1921                | *Lynn U. Stambaugh<br>North Dakota 1941-42  | James E. Powers<br>Georgia 1962-63  |
| *Hanford MacNider<br>Iowa 1921-22                | *Roane Waring<br>Tennessee 1942-43          | Daniel F. Foley<br>Minnesota 1963-64  |
| *Alvin M. Owsley<br>Texas 1922-23                | Warren H. Atherton<br>California 1943-44    | Donald E. Johnson<br>Iowa 1964-65   |
| John R. Quinn<br>California 1923-24              | *Edward N. Scheiberling<br>New York 1944-45 | L. Eldon James<br>Virginia 1965-66  |
| *James A. Drain<br>District of Columbia 1924-25  | *John Stelle<br>Illinois 1945-46            | John E. Davis<br>North Dakota 1966-67   |
| *John R. McQuigg<br>Ohio 1925-26                 | Paul H. Griffith<br>Pennsylvania 1946-47    | William E. Galbraith<br>Nebraska 1967-68  |
| *Howard P. Savage<br>Illinois 1926-27            | James F. O'Neil<br>New Hampshire 1947-48    | William C. Doyle<br>New Jersey 1968-69  |
| *Edward E. Spafford<br>New York 1927-28          | Perry Brown<br>Texas 1948-49                | J. Milton Patrick<br>Oklahoma 1969-70   |
| *Paul V. McNutt<br>Indiana 1928-29               | George N. Craig<br>Indiana 1949-50          | Alfred P. Chamie<br>California 1970-71  |
| *O. Lee Bodenhamer<br>Arkansas 1929-30           | Erle Cocke, Jr.<br>Georgia 1950-51          | PAST NATIONAL COMMANDERS BY<br>VOTE OF NATIONAL CONVENTION                            |
| *Ralph T. O'Neil<br>Kansas 1930-31               | Donald R. Wilson<br>West Virginia 1951-52   | *Bennett Champ Clark<br>Missouri—Presided at Paris caucus<br>March, 1919              |
| *Henry L. Stevens, Jr.<br>North Carolina 1931-32 | *Lewis K. Gough<br>California 1952-53       | *Milton J. Foreman<br>Illinois—Chairman, Executive<br>Committee at Paris              |
| *Louis Johnson<br>West Virginia 1932-33          | *Arthur J. Connell<br>Connecticut 1953-54   | *Henry D. Lindsley<br>Texas—Presided at St. Louis caucus<br>May 1919                  |
| *Edward A. Hayes<br>Illinois 1933-34             | Seaborn P. Collins<br>New Mexico 1954-55    | *Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.<br>New York  |
| *Frank N. Belgrano, Jr.<br>California 1934-35    | J. Addington Wagner<br>Michigan 1955-56     | *Eric Fisher Wood<br>Pennsylvania—Temporary Chairman and<br>Secretary at Paris caucus |
| *Ray Murphy<br>Iowa 1935-36                      | Dan Daniel<br>Virginia 1956-57              | Thomas W. Miller<br>Nevada—Chairman Pro Tempore<br>Paris Caucus March 1919            |
| Harry W. Colmery<br>Kansas 1936-37               | John S. Gleason, Jr.<br>Illinois 1957-58    | HONORARY NATIONAL COMMANDERS  |
| Daniel J. Doherty<br>Massachusetts 1937-38       | Preston J. Moore<br>Oklahoma 1958-59        | *General John J. Pershing   |
| Stephen F. Chadwick<br>Washington 1938-39        | Martin B. McKneally<br>New York 1959-60     | *Marshal Ferdinand Foch   |

\*Deceased

\*\*Killed in auto accident while serving  
as Commander

\*\*\*Elected by Executive Committee to fill  
unexpired term.

# Recipients of The American Legion

## *Distinguished Service Medal*

Senator John C. Stennis  
DeWitt Wallace



Marshal Ferdinand Foch  
of France—1921

Adm. Earl Beatty  
of Great Britain—1921

Gen. Baron Jacques  
of Belgium—1921

Gen. Armando Diaz  
of Italy—1921

Charles Bertrand  
of France—1921

Gen. of the Armies  
John J. Pershing  
1922

Adm. Robert E. Coontz  
1923

Gen. Josef Haller  
of Poland—1923

Ignace Jan Paderewski  
of Poland—1926

Comte

Francois Marie Robert Dejean  
of France—1927

Field Marshal Viscount Allenby  
of Great Britain—1928

Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis  
1929

Adm. William S. Sims  
1930

Gen. Douglas MacArthur  
1942

Gen. George C. Marshall  
1943

Adm. Ernest J. King  
1943

Hon. Frank Knox  
(Posthumously)—1944

Henry Ford  
1944

Gen. H. H. Arnold  
1944

President Franklin D. Roosevelt  
(Posthumously)—1945

Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.  
(Posthumously)—1945

Ernest (Ernie) Pyle  
(Posthumously)—1945

Hon. Henry L. Stimson  
1945

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz  
1945

Gen. of the Army  
Dwight D. Eisenhower  
1945

J. Edgar Hoover  
1946

Bob Hope  
1946

William Randolph Hearst  
1946

Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey  
1946

Hon. Cordell Hull  
1946

Lt. Gen. William S. Knudsen  
1947

Sen. Edward Martin  
1947

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson  
1947

President Harry S. Truman  
1949

George Herman (Babe) Ruth  
(Posthumously)—1949

Maj. Gen. Frank Parker  
(Posthumously)—1949

Charles F. Johnson, Jr.  
1950

Maj. Gen. Milton A. Reckord  
1950

Rep. Edith Nourse Rogers  
1950

Gen. Charles P. Summerall  
1951

Rep. Royal C. Johnson  
(Posthumously)—1953

Maj. Gen. George A. White  
(Posthumously)—1954

Dr. Jonas E. Salk  
1955

Maj. Gen. Ellard A. Walsh  
1955

Vice Adm. Joel T. Boone  
1956

Charles Stewart Mott  
1956

Gen. Mark W. Clark  
1957

The Most Reverend  
Fulton J. Sheen  
1957

Bernard Mannes Baruch  
1958

Unknown Servicemen of World War  
I, World War II, and Korea,  
interred at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier,  
Arlington National Cemetery—1958

Sen. Robert S. Kerr  
1959

President John F. Kennedy  
1961

Gen. Lucius D. Clay  
1962

Dr. Thomas A. Dooley  
(Posthumously)—1962

Francis Cardinal Spellman  
1963

Dr. Charles W. Mayo  
1964

President Herbert C. Hoover  
(Posthumously)—1965

Hon. James F. Byrnes  
1965

Capt. Roger H. C. Donlon  
1966

Hon. Tom C. Clark  
1967

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
1968

Gen. William C. Westmoreland  
1968

President Richard M. Nixon  
1969

Rep. Olin E. Teague  
1970

Rep. L. Mendel Rivers  
(Posthumously)—1971

Sen. Richard B. Russell  
(Posthumously)—1971



## **The UNKNOWN SOLDIER and the UNKNOWN CHILD**

*Reverently and rightly The American Legion has honored the Unknown Soldier. We can only surmise that this same Unknown Soldier would be pleased with a democracy and an organization that has grown to include the next generation's Unknown Child in its thinking.*

*As The American Legion's right to pride in past accomplishments is undenied, so also is our need for concern of things to come unquestioned. Your American Legion Child Welfare Foundation has that concern.*

*Give as generously as you can to the Foundation and help obtain new knowledge that will prevent some of the social and physical ills of the Unknown Child who is yet unborn.*

**American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1055  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206**

**(Your contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.)**

# Best Wishes...

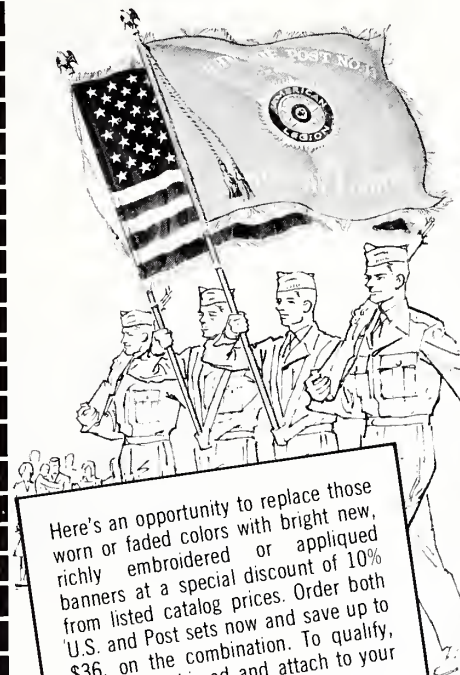
for another memorable  
American Legion  
Convention  
and for another  
year of great  
accomplishment.

From the underwriter  
of your American Legion  
Life Insurance Plan  
for 14 years.

UNITED STATES LIFE  
A **U-S-LIFE** COMPANY

## Important Convention Offer

### Special Savings on U.S. and Post Colors Sets



Here's an opportunity to replace those worn or faded colors with bright new, richly embroidered or appliqued banners at a special discount of 10% from listed catalog prices. Order both U.S. and Post sets now and save up to \$36. on the combination. To qualify, simply clip this ad and attach to your order.

Look for the special display and offer at all Emblem locations.  
**OFFER EXPIRES SEPT. 30, 1972**

# ANNIN

& CO.

OFFICIAL FLAG SUPPLIER  
Verona • New Jersey

Best Wishes to  
**THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
Compliments  
of  
**A Friend**



# COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN THE AMERICAN LEGION 1972 National Convention Corporation of Illinois

## Registration & Information



Ivan Mitchell  
*Chairman*

## Badges & Packets



Herbert H. Jacobs  
*Chairman*

## Housing



Frank C. Bottiglieri  
*Chairman*

## Contest



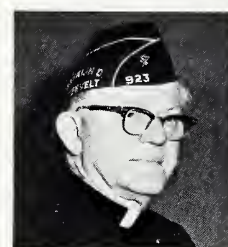
Alfred H. Serenski  
*Chairman*

## Insurance



Stanley A. VanDyk  
*Chairman*

## Memorial Services



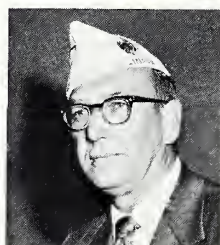
Rev. Jerome J. Klingsporn  
*Chairman*

## Provost Committee



Gen. Francis P. Kane  
*Chairman*

## Concessions



James V. Kissner  
*Chairman*

## Transportation & Tours



Charles H. Gibbons  
*Chairman*

## Parade



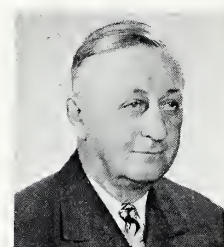
Edward A. Schalk  
*Chairman*

## First Aid



David C. Leach  
*Chairman*

## Distinguished Guests



Al Starshak  
*Chairman*

# COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN THE AMERICAN LEGION

## 1972 National Convention Corporation of Illinois

### Ticket Sales



Gerard W. Cheffer  
*Chairman*

### Reunions



Patrick Breen  
*Chairman*

### Legal



Albert C. Linenthal  
*Chairman*

### Post Participation



John B. Mahoney  
*Chairman*

### Equipment Procurement



James L. Brodie  
*Chairman*

### Decorations & Floats



Joseph J. Spingola  
*Chairman*

### Exhibits



Robert J. Bayer  
*Chairman*

### Out-State Hospitality & Information



Russell Bieritz  
*Chairman*

### Halls & Seating



Leon Butler  
*Chairman*

### Public Relations



Milton W. Prueter  
*Chairman*

### American Legion Auxiliary



Mrs. Charles Shaw  
*Chairman*

### 8 et 40



Mrs. T. Clyde Finley  
*Chairman*



# *The American Legion Auxiliary*

## **National Officers**



MRS. ROBERT L. PARKER  
*National President*



MRS. T. G. CHILTON  
*National Vice President*



MRS. ARTHUR  
WARD  
*Vice President  
Eastern Division*



MRS. PAUL  
BROWN  
*Vice President  
Western Div.*



MRS. JAMES R.  
WILLIAMS  
*Vice President  
Central Division*



MRS. KEMP  
HONEYCUTT  
*Vice President  
Southern Division*



MRS. IRA E.  
ANDERSON  
*Vice President  
Northwestern Div.*



MRS. EARL  
BIGALOW  
*National Historian*



MRS. LESTER L.  
NIMON  
*National Chaplain*



MISS DORIS  
ANDERSON  
*National Secretary*



MRS. MYNER  
FREEMAN  
*National Treasurer*

# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FIFTY - SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

**Palmer House Hotel  
Chicago, Illinois**



**Saturday, August 19, 1972  
4:00 P.M.**

**Pre-Convention National Executive Committee Meeting  
Red Lacquer Room**

**Sunday, August 20, 1972**

**Pre-Convention National Committee Meetings  
(All in the Palmer House Hotel)**

**8:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.**

## **CHAPLAINS**

Wabash Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Lester L. Nimon, *National Chaplain*

## **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

Monroe Room - 6th Floor  
Mrs. E. A. Roberts, *Chairman*

## **CREDENTIALS**

Crystal Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Walter H. Kelly, *Chairman*

## **PERMANENT ORGANIZATION**

Parlor A - 6th Floor  
Mrs. Boyd Custer, *Chairman*

## **RULES**

Private Din. Rm. 18-5th Floor  
Mrs. E. B. Benton, *Chairman*

**8:00 - 10:00 A.M.**

## **AMERICANISM**

Adams Room - 6th Floor  
Mrs. Margaret Smith, *Chairman*

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Private Din. Rm. 14-5th Floor  
Mrs. James E. Starr, *Chairman*

## **JUNIOR ACTIVITIES**

Parlor B - 6th Floor  
Mrs. Robert Melgard, *Chairman*

## **VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION**

Red Lacquer Room - 4th Floor  
Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, *Chairman*

**9:00 - 10:00 A.M.**

## **HISTORIANS**

Crystal Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Earl Bigalow, *National Historian*

## **PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY**

Monroe Room - 6th Floor  
Mrs. Mark W. Murrill, *Chairman*



**9:00 - 10:30 A.M.**

**AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND**

Private Din. Room 18-5th Floor  
Mrs. Earle R. Poorbaugh, *Chairman*

**LIAISON WITH C.W. FD.**

Private Din. Room 17-5th Floor  
Mrs. Henry Ahnemiller, *Chairman*

**PUBLICATIONS**

Wabash Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. A. J. Ryan, Sr., *Chairman*

**SPIRIT OF '76**

Parlor A - 6th Floor  
Mrs. H. Milton Davidson, *Chairman*

**10:00 - 12:00 Noon**

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Red Laequer Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Mauriee Kubby, *Chairman*

**FOREIGN RELATIONS**

Crystal Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Bernard F. Schmidt, *Chairman*

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Priv. Din Rm. 16-5th Floor  
Mrs. Alvin Moltzen, *Chairman*

**GIRLS STATE**

Monroe Room - 6th Floor  
Mrs. Bernard F. Kennedy, *Chairman*

**NATIONAL SECURITY**

Private Din. Rm. 14 - 5th Floor  
Mrs. Deverre Harper, *Chairman*

**10:30 - 12:30 P.M.**

**CIVIL DEFENSE AND EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Parlor A - 6th Floor  
Mrs. John W. Allen, *Chairman*

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Adams Room - 6th Floor  
Mrs. H. B. Behrend, *Chairman*

**EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

Private Din. Rm. 17 - 5th Floor  
Mrs. Carl Campbell, *Chairman*

**LEGISLATIVE**

Parlor B - 6th Floor  
Mrs. Walter Stolte, *Chairman*

**MEMBERSHIP**

Wabash Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Lyle Seymour, *Chairman*

**POPPY**

Private Din. Rm. 18 - 5th Floor  
Mrs. John J. Roethel, *Chairman*

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NATIONAL MUSIC CONTESTS  
STATE BALLROOM**

**8:00 - 12:30 P.M.**

*Conducted by the National Music Chairman,  
Mrs. Ted Galka*

**(Open to all Auxilliary members-Awards at conclusion)**

**1:00 - 3:00 P.M.**

**Joint Service with The American Legion  
Memorial-Meditation Service  
International Ballroom  
Conrad Hilton Hotel**

*Conducted by Father Paul J. Schwaab,  
National Chaplain, The American Legion*

*Assisted by : Mrs. Lester L. Nimon,  
National Chaplain, American Legion Auxiliary*

**PRE-Convention Committee Meetings (Continued)**

**3:00 - 4:30 P.M.**

**FINANCE**

Crystal Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Harold S. Burdett, *Chairman*

**RESOLUTIONS**

Wabash Room - 3rd Floor  
Mrs. Jack Pisciotta, *Chairman*

**MUSIC**

Private Din. Rm. 14 - 5th Floor  
Mrs. Ted Galka, *Chairman*

3:00 - 5:00 P.M.  
Pages Rehearsal (And Tea)  
State Ballroom

7:00 P.M.

AMERICAN LEGION DRUM AND BUGLE CORPS CONTEST  
SOLDIER FIELD

**MONDAY, AUGUST 21, 1972.**

8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.  
DIVISIONAL CAUCUSES

**CENTRAL DIVISION-**  
Red Lacquer Room-4th Floor  
**EASTERN DIVISION-**  
Monroe Room - 6th Floor

**NORTHWESTERN DIVISION-**  
Wabash Room - 3rd Floor  
**SOUTHERN DIVISION-**  
Adams Room - 6th Floor

**WESTERN DIVISION-**  
Crystal Room - 3rd Floor

10:00 - A.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
National Convention Parade

**AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION  
Palmer House Hotel  
Grand-State Ballroom  
Chicago, Illinois**

**TUESDAY, August 22, 1972.**

8:30 A.M.

**OFFICIAL PROGRAM**

**"SPOTLIGHT ON REVIEW"**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Charles C. Shaw, *National Convention Chairman*

**CONVENTION PROCESSIONAL**

Mrs. Pat Sherman, *Convention Organist*

Order of Processional: Department Colors  
Past National Presidents  
National Officers  
National Colors  
The National President



**INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL PRESIDENT,                      MRS. ROBERT L. PARKER**

By Mrs. Charles C. Shaw *National Convention Chairman*

**INVOCATION**

Mrs. Lester L. Nimon, *National Chaplain*

**Moment of Silence In Memory of our Departed Heroes**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mrs. Margaret Smith  
*National Americanism Chairman*

**THE NATIONAL ANTHEM (FIRST STANZA)**

The Audience - Led by  
Mrs. Ted Galka, *National Music Chr.*

**PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Led by Mrs. E. A. Roberts  
*National Constitution and Bylaws Chr.*

**"WELCOME"**

Mrs. Robert L. Parker  
*National President*

**INTRODUCTION AND GREETINGS**

National Commander John H. Geiger  
The American Legion

The Honorable Richard B. Ogilvie  
Governor of Illinois

National Adjutant William F. Hauck  
The American Legion

Mrs. Charles C. Shaw  
*National Convention Chairman*

The Honorable Richard J. Daley  
Mayor of Chicago

National Convention Corporation President  
of The American Legion, Mr. Harold A. Cummins

Mrs. Firman E. Henricks  
*Department President, Illinois*

**GREETINGS OF THE NATIONAL OFFICERS**

Mrs. T. G. Chilton, *National Vice President*

The Division National Vice Presidents:

Mrs. James R. Williams, Central  
Mrs. Arthur Ward, Eastern  
Mrs. Ira E. Anderson, Northwestern  
Mrs. Kemp Honeycutt, Southern  
Mrs. Paul Brown, *Western*

Mrs. Earl Bigalow, *National Historian*  
Mrs. Lester L. Nimon, *National Chaplain*  
Miss Doris Anderson, *National Secretary*  
Mrs. Myner Freeman, *National Treasurer*  
Mrs. Walter Wild Andrews, *National Parliamentarian*

**INTRODUCTION OF PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS**

Mrs. Robert Walbridge  
Mrs. Boyce Ficklen  
Mrs. William H. Biester, Jr.  
Mrs. Albin Charles Carlson  
Mrs. Oscar W. Hahn  
Mrs. James Morris  
Mrs. William H. Corwith  
Mrs. Louis J. Lemstra  
Mrs. Mark W. Murrill  
Mrs. Lawrence H. Smith  
Mrs. Charles B. Gilbert  
Mrs. Walter G. Craven  
Mrs. Norton H. Pearl  
Mrs. Lee W. Hutton  
Mrs. Norman L. Sheehe  
Mrs. Willis C. Reed

Mrs. E. A. Campbell  
Mrs. Harold S. Burdett  
Mrs. J. Pat Kelly  
Mrs. Alexander H. Gray  
Mrs. Henry Ahnemiller  
Mrs. J. Howard McKay  
Mrs. O. L. Koger  
Mrs. Luther D. Johnson  
Mrs. Walter Wild Andrews  
Mrs. Walter H. Glynn  
Mrs. A. J. Ryan, Sr.  
Mrs. Vernon H. Randall  
Mrs. Arthur B. Hanell  
Mrs. H. Milton Davidson  
Mrs. Charles C. Shaw

## GREETINGS FROM THE PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Mrs. Charles C. Shaw, *Junior Past National President*

### INTRODUCTIONS

Mrs. Natalie Yasensky  
*National Chairman of Pages*

Mrs. Norman Holt  
*National Vice Chairman of Pages*

### Personal Pages to the National President:

Mrs. E. L. Crawford  
Mrs. John de Stieguer  
Mrs. Fred Frey

Mrs. Luz Maria Rodriquez  
Mrs. James Boswell  
Mrs. Leon Reed

### Distnguished Guest Committee:

Mrs. H. Milton Davidson  
*Chairman*

Mrs. Willis C. Reed  
*Vice Chairman*

Mrs. Norton H. Pearl, *Member*  
Mrs. Walter H. Glynn, *Member*  
Mrs. Arthur B. Hanell, *Member*

### REPORT OF CONVENTION COMMITTEES

#### Credentials

Mrs. Walter H. Kelly, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Dewayne Krogh, *Vice Chairman*  
Mrs. Myner Freeman, *Member*

#### Rules

Mrs. E. B. Benton, *Chairman*

#### Permanent Organization

Mrs. Boyd Custer, *Chairman*

### NOMINATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 1972-1973

Recess - 12:30 P.M.



*Oliver Meadows, staff director, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, addresses the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Conference, Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D.C., March 1, 1972.*

## CONGRATULATIONS

to

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

*For Your Service  
to  
God and Country*

**THE BRONZE CRAFT CORP.**

**Nashua, New Hampshire**



(Organ Music - 1:45 - 2:00 P.M.)

2:00 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Robert L. Parker  
*National President*

**REPORT OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN**  
**"It Was ACTION Time"**

**AMERICANISM**  
**GIRLS STATE**

Mrs. Margaret Smith, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Bernard F. Kennedy, *Chairman*

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** Miss Alisa Greer,  
President, Girls Nation 1972

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
**SPECIAL FEATURE:**

Mrs. H. B. Behrend, *Chairman*  
Mr. William R. Russell  
Representing the National Foundation  
Mrs. John J. Roethel, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Ted Galka, *Chairman*

**POPPY**  
**MUSIC**

**SPECIAL FEATURE:** 1972 Golden Awards Ceremony . . . .  
Mrs. James Starr, *National Communications Chairman, Presiding*  
Assisted by: Mr. Layton K. Hurst, *Program Coordinator*.

**Recess - 4:15 P.M.**

**6:00 P.M. - Join The American Legion in session -**  
**McCormick Place**  
**(Busses Available)**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1972**

(Organ Music - 8:15 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. R. L. Parker  
National President

**INVOCATION**

Mrs. Lester L. Nimon  
*National Chaplain*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mrs. Margaret Smith  
*National Americanism Chairman*

**"THE NATIONAL ANTHEM"**

Led by Mrs. Ted Galka  
*National Music Chairman*

**PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Led by Mrs. E. A. Roberts  
*National Constitution & ByLaws Chairman*

**"SPOTLIGHT ON A RECORD OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS"**

A Pictorial Presentation of the Report of  
Mrs. Robert L. Parker, *National President*

**REPORTS OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN**  
**"ALA LEADS THE ACTION"**

**VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION**  
**LEGISLATIVE**  
**NATIONAL SECURITY**

Mrs. B. M. Jarrett, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Walter Stolte, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Deverre Harper, *Chairman*

**GREETINGS:**

Mrs. Frances Connor,  
Department of Defense  
Representing the Secretary of Defense

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

**WOMEN'S FORUM ON NATIONAL SECURITY**

Mrs. J. Howard McKay, *Chairman*

**"OUR ACTION'S IMAGE"**

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**  
**LIAISON WITH CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION**  
**JUNIOR ACTIVITIES**  
**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**  
**PUBLICATIONS**  
**PAST PRESIDENTS PARLEY**

Mrs. Maurice Kubby, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Henry Ahnemiller, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Robert Melgard, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Alvin Moltzen, *Chairman*  
Mrs. A. J. Ryan, Sr., *Chairman*  
Mrs. Mark W. Murrill, *Chairman*

**ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS, 1972-1973**

**"A SPOTLIGHT OF APPRECIATION"**

Introduction of 1972 National Convention Chairmen - by  
Mrs. Charles C. Shaw, *National Convention Chairman*

**"A SPOTLIGHT OF COOPERATION"**

Greetings of: Miss Dorothy Dolle, Le Chapeau Nationale, Eight and Forty

**RECESS - 12 Noon**

**Organ Music - 1:30 - 1:45 P.M.**  
**1:45 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Robert L. Parker  
*National President*

**GREETINGS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

**REPORTS OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN**  
**"SMOKE SIGNALS"**

**MEMBERSHIP**

Mrs. Lyle Seymour, *Chairman*

**PRESENTATION OF GOAL DEPARTMENT PRESIDENTS**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. James Starr, *Chairman*

**FINANCE**

Mrs. Harold S. Burdett, *Chairman*

**"EDUCATION FOR ACTION"**

**EDUCATION AND SCHOLARSHIPS**  
**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**  
**FOREIGN RELATIONS**

Mrs. Carl Campbell, *Chairman*  
Mrs. E. A. Roberts, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Bernard Schmidt, *Chairman*



**GREETINGS:**

Mrs. Helen Livingston Smith  
Director, National Organizations Programs  
CARE, Inc.  
Mrs. Laura Hahn  
Director of Women's Activities  
The American Korean Foundation

**CIVIL DEFENSE AND EMERGENCY PLANNING**  
**AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND**

Mrs. John W. Allen, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Earle Poorbaugh, *Chairman*

**RECESS: 4:00 P.M.**

**STATES DINNER - GRAND-STATE BALLROOM**  
**8:00 P.M.**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1972**

**Organ Music (8:15-8:30 A.M.)**  
**8:30 A.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mrs. Robert L. Parker  
*National President*

**INVOCATION**

Mrs. Lester L. Nimon  
*National Chaplain*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by Mrs. Margaret Smith  
*National Americanism Chairman*

**"THE NATIONAL ANTHEM"**

Led by Mrs. Ted Galka  
*National Music Chairman*

**PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION**

Led by Mrs. E. A. Roberts  
*National Constitution and Bylaws Chairman*

**"WE SPOTLIGHT OUR LEADERSHIP"**

**Introduction of 1971-1972 Department Presidents**

**"SPOTLIGHT ON THE FUTURE"**

**A Special Salute to the 1973 National Convention**

**REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE:**

Mrs. Jack Pisciotta, *Chairman*  
Mrs. J. Pat Kelly, *Vice Chairman*  
Mrs. Delmar O. Engel, *Member.*

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**"SPIRIT OF '76 COMMITTEE"**

Mrs. H. Milton Davidson, *Chairman*

**FINAL REPORT: CONSTITUTION**  
**AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

Mrs. E. A. Roberts, *Chairman*

11:30 A.M.

**INSTALLATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS, 1972-1973**

Mrs. Lawrence H. Smith, *Past National President*  
*Installing Officer*

**PRESENTATION OF COLORS TO RETIRING NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

By Mrs. Willis C. Reed, *Past National President*

**PRESENTATION OF PIN AND RIBBON TO RETIRING NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

By Mrs. O.L. Koger, *Past National President*

**BENEDICTION**

Mrs. Lester L. Nimon, *National Chaplain*

**RETIREMENT OF NATIONAL AND DEPARTMENT COLORS**

**ADJOURNMENT OF THE CONVENTION**

Mrs. Robert L. Parker  
*National President*

1:00 P.M.

**POST-CONVENTION NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Red Lacquer Room**

1:00 P.M.

**POST-CONVENTION NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Private Dining Room 18 - 5th Floor**

**NATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEES**

**NATIONAL CONVENTION CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. Charles C. Shaw

**NATIONAL CONVENTION VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. Charles Gill

**HONORARY CHAIRMAN**

Mrs. Norman L. Sheehe

**NATIONAL CONVENTION SECRETARY**

Mrs. John Acklin

**COMMUNICATIONS (Radio, TV, Press)**

Mrs. Roy Tovey, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Thomas Prendergast, *Vice-Chairman*

**COURTESIES (Distinguished Guests)**

Mrs. Victor Lello, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Ann McManus, *Vice-Chairman*

**DISTINGUISHED GUEST COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Lewis Yeager, *Chairman*  
Miss Edna Mae Unfer, *Vice-Chairman*

**EIGHT & FORTY**

Mrs. Clyde Finley, *Chairman*  
Mrs. George Speir, *Vice-Chairman*

**EXHIBITS**

Mrs. John Keith, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Mary Taylor, *Vice-Chairman*

**FIRST AID**

Mrs. Victor Jovanovich, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Russell Johnson, *Vice-Chairman*



**FLAG REGISTRATION**

Mrs. Jerome Murphy, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Alice Larsen, *Vice-Chairman*

**FLOWERS/CORSAGES**

Mrs. Roy Mount, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Willard Peterson, *Vice-Chairman*

**HALLS AND SEATING**

Mrs. Robert Fitzgerald, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Vito Pappalivata, *Vice-Chairman*

**HISTORY EXHIBIT**

Miss Geraldine Riden, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Reinhardt Wolf, *Vice-Chairman*

**HOSPITALITY**

Mrs. John Me Carthy, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Henry Kraus, *Vice-Chairman*

**INFORMATION**

Miss Rose Marie Loparco, *Chairman*  
Mrs. C. L. Me Mackin, *Vice-Chairman*

**JUNIOR HANDWORK/DOLLS**

Mrs. Carl Roach, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Robert Force, *Vice-Chairman*

**LOST & FOUND**

Mrs. Charles Fenel, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Peg King, *Vice-Chairman*

**MUSIC CONTESTS**

Mrs. Denby Boring, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Anamay Wales, *Vice-Chairman*

**INCOMING PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION**

Mrs. Alvin Strum, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Robert Pears, *Vice-Chairman*

**NATIONAL CHAIRMEN'S LUNCHEON**

Mrs. Sanford Patterson, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Jack Jones, *Vice-Chairman*

**NATIONAL OFFICERS DINNER**

Mrs. Elmer Martin, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Elmer Jackson, *Vice-Chairman*

**NATIONAL CAMPAIGN RECEPTIONS**

Mrs. Paul Cavanaugh, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Barney Petit, *Vice-Chairman*

**PACKETS**

Mrs. Wm. Stringer, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Jack Copeland, *Vice-Chairman*

**PAGES**

Mrs. Norman Holt, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Rodger Bennett, *Vice-Chairman*

**PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS DINNER**

Mrs. Bernard Schmidt, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Norman Biebel, *Vice-Chairman*

**POPPY DISPLAY CONTESTS**

Mrs. Bess Lewis, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Carlos Adams, *Vice-Chairman*

**PAGES TEA**

Mrs. Wm. Schultz, *Chairman*  
Miss Julia Markezieh, *Vice-Chairman*

**PRAYER BOOKS**

Mrs. John Hein, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Flora Jane Martin, *Vice-Chairman*

**STAGE**

Mrs. Mason Beard, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Chas. Berger, *Vice-Chairman*

**STATES DINNER DECORATIONS**

Mrs. Dorothy Ward, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Alex Lloyd, *Vice-Chairman*

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Mrs. Fred Willrett, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Norman Pinkstaff, *Vice-Chairman*

**TEENS CANTEEN**

Mrs. Robert Sturgis, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Wm. Atteberry, *Vice-Chairman*

**TRANSPORTATION**

Mrs. Ivan Mitchell, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Edward Zimmer, *Vice-Chairman*

**HALLS/STAGE DECORATIONS**

Mrs. Howard Clark, *Chairman*  
Mrs. A. J. Dorn, *Vice-Chairman*

**DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Firman Henrieks



*National Commander John H. Geiger meets with Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird during one of the Commander's visits to the nation's capital to receive briefings on the national defense picture.*



# Hail The Post Service Officer!

It is not uncommon for the men and women who devote many hours of outstanding service to veterans and their dependents through their work as Post Service Officers to go unnoticed. The temptation to criticize too often takes precedence over recognition for a job consistently well done. In our daily observations and associations, we, of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission, have long been aware of the devotion and hard work performed by over 16,000 of these dedicated Legionnaires.

The Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation services of The American Legion were developed to serve war veterans and their dependents. Responsibility for this huge task of informing them rests, to a large degree, with the individual Posts of The American Legion. Without question, the office of Post Service Officer is the most important office in the Post. If it weren't for this vital link with the veteran our Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program would be a vast impersonal failure. If the Legion can influence legislation it is not only because of a paid staff working in Washington, equally it is because of the voice of the volunteer Post Service Officer. If the Legion has the respect and confidence of the community, it is because of him. In a word, if the Legion has succeeded and if it is destined to continue to flourish, a major share of the credit is due that unsung worker—the Post Service Officer.



Duties of a Post Service Officer are many and varied. Pictured above is Keith Sayers, Post 71 Service Officer of Winamac, Indiana, delivering two wheel chairs and two walkers to the Pulaski Memorial Hospital at Winamac. The hospital equipment was donated to the hospital by Winamac Post 71.



*The U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw, "The Mighty Mac," pictured above, will be in port in Chicago, Aug. 21 and 22, during the period of The American Legion's 54th Annual National Convention and will hold "open house" for convention delegates and guests on those days. The exact location of the Mackinaw's berthing had not been determined as this program went to press, and will be announced through other Legion channels as soon as it is known.*



# *Youth Leaders Attend Convention*

## **BASEBALL**



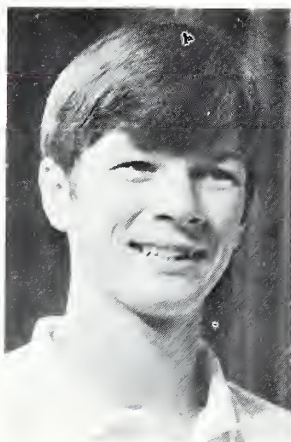
**Randy G. Haas**  
West Covina, California  
*Player of the Year.*

## **BOY SCOUTS**



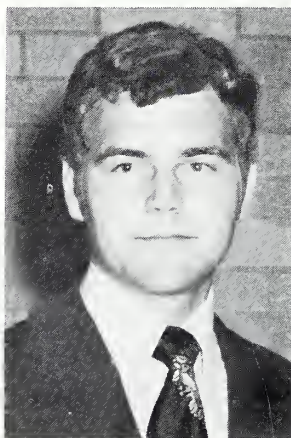
**Larry A. Eisenberg**  
Rock Island, Illinois  
*Law and Politics are in  
the future.*

## **BOYS NATION**



**Gregory L. Hack**  
Lawrence, Kansas  
*President, Boys Nation, 1972  
A dynamic leader.*

## **ORATORICAL**



**Thomas W. Joiner**  
Rock Hill, So. Carolina  
*Winner, National High School  
Oratorical Contest.*

## **BOYS' CLUBS**



**Rodrigo Guerra, Jr.**  
Pasadena, California  
*A leader and active participant  
in the Boys' Club program.*

# THE AMERICAN LEGION 54th NATIONAL CONVENTION

## Discount Coupons

### OFFICIAL SIGHTSEEING TOUR PROGRAM

Operated by:

#### AMERICAN SIGHTSEEING TOURS

All Tours will depart hourly each day from these hotels:

1. Conrad Hilton
2. Pick-Congress
3. Palmer House
4. Sherman House
5. Drake Hotel

(SPECIAL DESK LOCATED IN HOTELS)

Other hotels will be provided a courtesy bus service with an advance reservation from all downtown area properties.

**DISCOUNT TICKETS will be on sale at the above mentioned hotels.**



54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION



54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION



54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION

#### GRAND TOUR OF CHICAGO

4 Hours - \$6.00

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. - Hourly

See hotel departure schedule

\* DISCOUNT - 50¢ each

#### STEAK DINNER NIGHT CLUB TOUR

4 Stops - Drinks - Shows - All Expenses

6 Hours - \$17.50 incl. tax, tip

7:00 p.m. - Mon., Wed., Fri., and Sat.

See hotel departure schedule

\* DISCOUNT - 50¢ each

#### DELUXE CHINATOWN DINNER TOUR

(Cantonese Dinner & Tour)

4 Hours - \$7.00 incl. tax, tip

6:00 p.m. - Nightly

See hotel departure schedule

\* DISCOUNT - 50¢ each



54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION



54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION



54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION

#### NORTH OR SOUTH SHORES & LOOP

2 Hours - \$3.50

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Hourly

See hotel departure schedule

\* DISCOUNT - 50¢ each

#### CHICAGO AFTER DARK TOUR (OLD TOWN & CHINATOWN)

2 1/4 Hours - \$3.50

7:30 p.m. - Nightly

See hotel departure schedule

\* DISCOUNT - 50¢ each

#### LAND & LAKE TOUR

(Bus and Boat Rides)

3 1/2 Hours - \$5.50

10:30, 11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.

\* DISCOUNT - 50¢ each



54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION

#### ENJOY CHICAGO

Use Your  
DISCOUNT  
COUPONS



#### DOES YOUR STATE OR GROUP WISH TO CHARTER A BUS

Charter rates for Airport Transfers,  
Parade Transfers and all occasions.

FOR RATES CALL - Pete Bell

427-3100

#### CHICAGO WHITE SOX

##### Baseball Schedule

Fri., Aug. 18 - Boston ..... 8:00 P.M.  
Sat., Aug. 19 - Boston ..... 1:15 P.M.  
Sunday, Aug. 20 - Boston ..... 1:15 P.M.\*  
Tues. Aug. 22 - New York ..... 8:00 P.M.  
Wed., Aug. 23 - New York ..... 1:15 P.M.

\* Doubleheader

##### ADMISSIONS

\$4.00 ..... Box Seats  
\$3.00 ..... Reserved Grandstand  
\$1.75 ..... General Admission (Adults)  
\$1.00 ..... General Admission (Children under 15)







**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**NATIONAL CAR RENTAL**

Chicago, Illinois  
(Toll free) 800-328-4567

20% Discount with this coupon on all cars.  
Free pick-up and delivery downtown.

\* VALID - August 16 - 28, 1972



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT  
OR NOT MUSEUM**

1500 North Wells Street  
337-6077

ADMISSION—w/coupon\*

Adults- .....\$1.00  
Teenagers- .....\$ .75  
Children- .....\$ .50

\* VALID - August 18-27, 1972



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

American Legion Senior & Junior

**DRUM & BUGLE CORPS**

Final Contest

**SOLDIER FIELD**

Sunday, August 20, 7:00 P.M.

**TICKETS**

\$3.00 (Reserved Section)  
\$2.00 (General Admission)

This coupon good for 50¢ on either admission. This coupon must be exchanged when purchasing tickets at any ticket booth or ticket window at Soldier Field.



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**HERTZ-RENT-A-CAR**

This coupon entitles Legionnaires to a 20% discount on standard time and mileage charges. Coupon must be presented at the time of rental and is not applicable to special rates. Rental offices are located at:

225 N. Dearborn

372-7600

Midway Airport

735-7272

1000 Lake Shore Drive

337-5212

O'Hare International Airport

686-7272

\* VALID - August 16-28, 1972



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**FIELD MUSEUM OF  
NATURAL HISTORY**

E. Roosevelt Road &  
S. Lake Shore Drive  
922-9410

**ADMISSION**

Adults- .....\$1.00  
Children- .....\$ .35  
Family- .....\$2.50

\* FREE ON FRIDAYS  
**HOURS**

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**MUSEUM OF SCIENCE  
AND INDUSTRY**

E. 57th at S. Lake Shore Drive  
MU4-1414 Ext. 48

**ADMISSION FREE  
HOURS**

Weekdays & Saturday  
9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Sunday  
10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**AVIS RENT A CAR**

Chicago, Illinois  
782-0180

20% Discount on time and mileage with this coupon.

\* VALID - August 16-28, 1972



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**JOHN G. SHEDD AQUARIUM**

1200 S. Lake Shore Drive  
939-2426

**ADMISSION**

Adults- .....\$1.00  
Children- .....\$ .35  
Family- .....\$2.50

\* FREE ON FRIDAYS

**HOURS**

Doily / 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Friday / 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO**

Michigan Ave. & Adams Street  
CE6-7080

**ADMISSION Donation**

**HOURS**

Doily (except) Thursday  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Sunday  
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**THE ADLER PLANETARIUM**

Lake Front at Roosevelt Road  
922-4488

**ADMISSION**

Buildings & Exhibits - FREE  
Sky Theatre

Adults- .....\$ .75  
Children- .....\$ .35

**HOURS**

Doily / 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
Monday / 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**For additional information on  
shuttles, charter service, and  
tours.**

**PHONE:**

**AMERICAN SIGHTSEEING TOURS  
427-3100**



**54th National Convention  
THE AMERICAN LEGION**

I am a member of ..... Post, American Legion, or a member of ..... Unit, American Legion Auxiliary, located in (City) ..... (State) .....

Please enter my name in the free drawings to be held August 20, 1972, at the National Convention in Chicago, Illinois, for the four free Ford Convertibles, donated to The American Legion 1972 National Convention Corporation of Illinois by the Seagrom Posts.

Name .....

Home Address .....

City ..... State .....

Signature ..... Card No. ....





# Salon National La Boutique Des Huit Chapeaux et Quarante Femmes 51st Annual La Marche Nationale

La Salle Hotel

August 25th and 26th, 1972

## OFFICIAL PROGRAM

### National Officers



Miss Dorothy M. Dolle  
*Le Chapeau National*



Mrs. Robert C. Snow  
*La Secretaire-Cassiere Nationale*

## REGISTRATION

La Salle Hotel—Mezzanine Foyer

Monday, August 21, 1972 ..... 2:00 to 5:00 P.M.  
Thursday, August 24, 1972 ..... 3:00 to 9:00 P.M.  
Friday, August 25, 1972 ..... 10:00 A.M. to 3 P.M.

**NOTE:** Advance registrations only may be picked up from National Headquarters, Attache Room (Mezzanine Floor), Saturday, August 19, 1972, between 3 P.M. and 5 P.M.

**THURSDAY, August 24, 1972**

### PRE-MARCHE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

#### CHILDREN AND YOUTH

##### National Jewish Hospital Liaison

Mrs. Owen W. Gleason and  
Mrs. Mayro Cox, *Chairmen*  
Illinois Room 3:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

#### CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Mrs. Clarence Kates, *Chairman*  
Room L—3:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

#### PARTNERSHIP

Mrs. Eugene Hess, *Chairman*  
Room J—3:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

#### PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

Mrs. Raymond Baldwin, *Chairman*  
Room I—3:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

#### RITUALS AND EMBLEMS

Mrs. Ruby Eastman, *Chairman*  
Room J—5:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

#### RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Herman Edwards, *Chairman*  
Room K—4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

#### RULES AND ORDER

Mrs. Ethel Marsh, *Chairman*  
Room L—5:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

#### SCHOLARSHIP

Mrs. Marie Ciccone Wayne, *Chairman*  
Room I—4:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

#### L'ARCHIVISTE-PUBLICITY and SCRAPBOOK

Miss Julia Mullan and  
Mrs. Harry S. Wilson, *Chairmen*  
Room K—3:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

#### TROPHY DISPLAY

Mrs. Charles Smith, *Chairman*  
Thursday, 3:00 P.M. until 9:00 A.M.,  
Saturday, August 26, 1972 - Board Room  
(hours to be posted)



## **TEA FOR LES CHAPEAUX NATIONAUX PASSES**

Thursday, August 24, 1972 5:30 P.M.—6:30 P.M.  
Hostess—Departmental of Illinois

## **REHEARSAL**

LaConcierge, Les Marechals and Pages  
Mrs. Sherman Lansdale, La Concierge Nationale  
Illinois Room —Friday, August 25, 1972— 11:00 A.M.

## **PRE-MARCHE POUVOIR**

**La Salle Hotel - Illinois Room**

**Thursday, August 24, 1972—8:00 P.M.**

## **DIVISIONAL BREAKFASTS AND DIVISIONAL CAUCUSES**

**Friday, August 25, 1972—8:30 A.M.**

Eastern Division ..... Room J  
Southern Division..... Room I  
Central Division ..... Chicago Room  
Western Division ..... Room K  
Northwestern Division ..... Room L

## **LA MARCHE NATIONALE**

**La Salle Hotel - Illinois Room**

**Opening Session—Friday, August 25, 1972—1:30 P.M.**

### **Processional of National Officers, Chapeaux Nationaux PASSES and Distinguished Guests**

Mrs. T. Clyde Finley, La Marche  
*Chairman* presiding

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Miss Dorothy M. Dolle, Le Chapeau National

### **INVOCATION**

Mrs. Michael Suvak, L'Aumonier Nationale

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Led by Mrs. Sherman Lansdale,  
La Concierge Nationale

### **THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Mrs. Thomas N. Leervig

### **FLANDERS FIELD**

Mrs. Frank Meyer, Le Demi Chapeau National

### **AMERICA'S ANSWER**

Mrs. Wilmer Mc Comas, Le Demi Chapeau National

### **ROLL CALL**

Mrs. Robert C. Snow, La Secretaire  
Caissiere Nationale

### **READING OF CALL TO LA MARCHE NATIONALE 1972**

### **READING OF THE MINUTES OF LA MARCHE NATIONALE OF 1971**

### **GREETINGS—**

Mrs. T. Clyde Finley, La Marche Nationale  
*Chairman*  
Mrs. George G. Speir, La Marche Nationale  
*Co-Chairman*  
Mrs. James Menendez, La Marche Nationale  
*Co-Chairman*  
Mr. John Geiger, National Commander,  
The American Legion  
Mr. Harold A. Cummins, President, National  
Convention Coporation of Illinois  
Mrs. Charles C. Shaw, National Convention  
*Chairman, American Legion Auxiliary*  
Miss Doris Anderson, National Secretary,  
American Legion Auxiliary  
Mrs. Maurice Kubby, Chairman, Children and  
Youth Committee, American Legion Auxiliary  
Mr. Edward A. Schalk, Department Commander  
of Illinois, The American Legion  
Mrs. Firman E. Hendricks, Department President  
of Illinois, American Legion Auxiliary

### **PRESENTATION OF LES DEMI CHAPEAUX NATIONAUX AND INTRODUCTION OF LES CHAPEAUX DEPARTMENTAUX**

Mrs. Lionel Dugas, Eastern Division  
Mrs. Frank Meyer, Central Division  
Mrs. Ray Maxwell, Southern Division  
Mrs. Wilmer McComas, Northwestern Division  
Mrs. Harry R. Russell, Western Division

## **INTRODUCTION OF CHAPEAUX NATIONAUX PASSES**

Mrs. Harry Kehm  
Mrs. Walter Davol  
Mrs. George Murphy  
Mrs. Albert Pico  
Mrs. Robert N. Haws  
Mrs. Dee P. Davis  
Mrs. Valentine Delles  
Mrs. Edsell Swanner  
Mrs. D. A. Craig  
Mrs. Herman C. Edwards  
Mrs. Otis R. Aaron  
Mrs. Ray A. Stratton  
Mrs. Robert C. Snow  
Mrs. M. Stephen Hunnicutt  
Mrs. Charles E. Titlow, Sr.  
Mrs. Mayro Cox  
Mrs. James Michelet  
Mrs. C. P. Andrew  
Mrs. George G. Speir  
Mrs. Joseph M. Voit  
Mrs. A. L. La Vaque  
Mrs. William J. McKinley  
Mrs. Premo O. Kelly  
Mrs. James C. Gleason  
Mrs. T. Clyde Finley  
Mrs. Jerome E. Allen  
Mrs. James A. De Force  
Mrs. James W. Collins

## **RESPONSE**

Mrs. James W. Collins, Le Chapeau National Passe

## **REPORT OF SPECIAL MARCHE COMMITTEES**

Rules and Order—Mrs. Ethel Marsh  
Credentials—Mrs. V. James Campagna  
Permanent Organization—Mrs. Raymond Baldwin

## **NOMINATION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS FOR 1973**

## **PRESENTATION OF LES MARECHALS**

Mrs. Charles Smith and  
Mrs. J. Russell Haslam

## **PRESENTATION OF CHAIRMAN AND CO-CHAIRMAN OF PAGES**

Mrs. Charles Grant and  
Mrs. Sam T. A. Crawford

## **PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL PAGES**

Mrs. Vickie Page  
Mrs. Clark Bonner  
Mrs. R. G. Grahlmann  
Mrs. Don Cushman  
Mrs. Vivian Milne  
Mrs. C. B. Laughlin  
Mrs. William Craig  
Mrs. Edgar Pratt

## **PRESENTATION OF LE CHAPEAU NATIONAL PERSONAL PAGES**

Mrs. William P. Moore and  
Mrs. Raymond Trigge

## **PRESENTATION OF LA SECRETAIRE-CAISSIERE NATIONAL PERSONAL PAGE**

Mrs. Ralph Santilli

## **PRESENTATION OF MARCHE NATIONALE REPORTER**

Mrs. Sadie Thomas

## **REPORT OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

Le Chapeau National—Miss Dorothy M. Dolle  
La Secretaire-Caissiere Nationale  
Mrs. Robert C. Snow  
L'Avocate Nationale—Mrs. William J. McKinley  
L'Archiviste Nationale—Miss Julia V. Mullan  
L'Aumonier Nationale—Mrs. Michael Suvak  
La Concierge Nationale—Mrs. Sherman Lansdale  
Hat Box Editor—Mrs. James W. Collins  
Recess

# **LA MARCHE SESSION—Friday, August 25, 1972 7:30 P.M.**

## **INVOCATION**

Mrs. Michael Suvak

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Led by Mrs. Sherman Lansdale

## **PRESENTATION OF LOCAL MARCHE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN**

Mrs. T. Clyde Finley, Chairman  
Mrs. George G. Speir, Co-Chairman  
Mrs. James Menendez, Co-Chairman

## **GREETINGS**

Mrs. Robert L. Parker, National President  
American Legion Auxiliary

## **EIGHT AND FORTY AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING**

Dr. Freda Kehm, Le Chapeau National Passe

## **REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND INTRODUCTION OF AREA CHAIRMEN**

Children and Youth—Mrs. Owen W. Gleason  
National Jewish Hospital Liaison—Mrs. Mayro Cox  
Constitution and Bylaws—Mrs. Clarence W. Kates  
Finance—Mrs. Charles E. Titlow, Sr.  
Partnership—Mrs. Eugene Hess  
Ritual and Emblems—Mrs. Ruby Eastman  
Scholarship—Mrs. Marie Ciccone Wayne  
Trophy Plaques and Awards—Mrs. Charles D. Smith  
Handbook Report—Mrs. William J. Staley

## **PERMANENT ORGANIZATION**

Mrs. Raymond Baldwin, Indiana, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Robert Angel, Colorado  
Miss Beatrice Frost, Washington



## LA MARCHE SESSION—Saturday, August 26, 1972 8:30 A.M.

### INVOCATION

Mrs. Michael Suvak

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mrs. Sherman Lansdale

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

PRELUDE ..... Mrs. T. Clyde Finley

PROCESSIONAL ..... Chapeaux Nationaux Passes

PRAYER ..... Mrs. Michael Suvak  
L'Aumonier Nationale

SOLO—"There is No Death" by O'Hara  
..... Mrs. Thomas N. Leervig

TRIBUTE TO ALL DECEASED PARTNERS  
..... Miss Dorothy M. Dolle  
*Le Chapeau National*

EULOGY in MEMORY of Mrs. Hugh McClung  
..... Mrs. Harry Kehm  
*Le Chapeau National Passe*

SOLO ..... Mrs. Thomas N. Leervig

GOLDEN MEMORIES ..... Mrs. Valentive Delles  
*Le Chapeau National Passe*

ROLL CALL OF DEPARTMENTAUX  
..... Mrs. Michael Suvak

TRIBUTE to all DEPARTED PARTNERS  
..... by LES DEMI CHAPEAUX

EASTERN DIVISION ..... Mrs. Lionel Dugas

CENTRAL DIVISION ..... Mrs. Frank Meyer

SOUTHERN DIVISION ..... Mrs. Ray Maxwell

NORTHWESTERN DIVISION

..... Mrs. Wilmer McComas

WESTERN DIVISION ..... Mrs. Harry R. Russell

SOLO—BEYOND THE SUNSET

..... Mrs. Thomas N. Leervig

BENEDICTION ..... Mrs. Michael Suvak

### RECESSIONAL

### REPORT OF RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

..... Mrs. Herman Edwards

### REPORT OF CREDENTIALS

..... Mrs. V. James Campagna

### ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

#### Address

Mr. Frank Karel III, Director of Planning, National Jewish  
Hospital and Research Center, Denver, Colorado

#### Unfinished Business

Report of Judge of Elections ..... Mrs. Mary Martin

#### New Business

Ratification of Election of  
Les Demi Chapeaux Nationaux  
Presentation of New Officers

#### Song

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

#### Recess

## POST MARCHE POUVOIR—Saturday, August 26, 1972

La Salle Hotel—Chicago Room—3:00 P.M.

### LA MARCHE NATIONALE BANQUET

Saturday, August 26, 1972

No Host Social Hour—Century Room—6:30 P.M.

La Salle Hotel—Grand Ballroom—7:30 P.M.

Installation of Officers

Presentation of Le Chapeau National Passe Pin

Entertainment

Retirement of Colors

Adjournment

## SPECIAL MARCHE COMMITTEES

### CREDENTIALS

Mrs. V. James Campagna, Massachusetts, *Chairman*

Mrs. Clara Brooks, District of Columbia

Mrs. Verna Bosley, Nebraska

### DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Mrs. Jerome Allen, New Mexico, *Chairman*

Mrs. Joseph M. Voit, New York

Mrs. Valentine Delles, Florida

Mrs. James Gleason, New Jersey

Mrs. A. L. La Vaque, California

Mrs. R. A. Stratton, Iowa

## **JUDGE OF ELECTIONS**

Mrs. Mary Martin, Ohio

## **TELLERS**

Mrs. Lloyd Mayers, Louisiana  
Mrs. Betty Gould, Michigan  
Mrs. James Tracy, Pennsylvania  
Mrs. William Pratt, Massachusetts

## **RESOLUTIONS**

Mrs. Herman Edwards, Oregon, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Jesse Startzel, Jr., Pennsylvania  
Mrs. Eural E. Adams, Florida

## **RULES AND ORDER**

Mrs. Ethel Marsh, California, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Henry J. Mayer, New York  
Mrs. Donald Still, New Hampshire

## **LES MARECHALS**

Mrs. Charles D. Smith, Pennsylvania  
Mrs. J. Russell Haslam, Washington

## **PAGES**

Mrs. Charles Grant, Kentucky, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Sam T. A. Crawford, Virginia, *Co-Chairman*  
Mrs. Vickie Page, Mississippi  
Mrs. Vivian Milne, New Mexico  
Mrs. R. H. Grahlmann, Missouri  
Mrs. Don Cushman, Kansas  
Mrs. C. B. McLaughlin, Oregon  
Mrs. Clark Bonner, Utah  
Mrs. Edgar Piatt, West Virginia  
Mrs. William Craig, California

## **LA MUSICIENNE**

Mrs. Arnold Chesick, Illinois

## **SOLOIST**

Mrs. Thomas N. Leervig, Illinois

# **1972 LA MARCHE NATIONALE LOCAL COMMITTEES**

## **La Marche Chairman**

Mrs. T. Clyde Finley

## **La Marche Co-Chairmen**

Mrs. George G. Speir, Mrs. James Menendez

## **La Secretaire-Caissiere**

Miss Manda Markezick

## **Aides to L'Aumonier Nationale**

Mrs. Harry Koopman, Mrs. Philip Corboy

## **Aide to Le Chapeau National**

Miss Lorraine Hagedorn

## **Badges**

Mrs. Henry Pipes

## **Banquet**

Mrs. Elmer Martin

## **Banquet Reservations**

Mrs. Joseph Erasmus

## **Breakfast Co-ordinator**

Mrs. Walter Baumann

## **Decorations**

Mrs. Edward Powell

## **Vice Chairman**

Mrs. Edward Kouba

## **Entertainment**

Mrs. Lincoln Rodman

## **Favors**

Mrs. James Smith, Co-chairman  
Mrs. Elsie Jarzembksi, Mrs. Ralph Shafer

## **First Aid**

Mrs. Bertha Listena  
Co-chairman, Mrs. Esther Spicuzza

## **Flowers**

Mrs. William Stringer

## **Halls and Seating**

Mrs. Alice Larsen

Vice Chairman, Mrs. John Acklin

## **Hospitality**

Mrs. William Lewis

Co-chairman, Mrs. I. H. Geer

## **Hostesses**

Mrs. Blanche Zimmer  
Mrs. Jeanette Skilbeck  
Mrs. Bernedatte Schwab  
Mrs. Marge Ivan  
Mrs. Marijane Mahoney  
Mrs. Betty Bauman  
Mrs. Dorothy Mersman

## **Information-Lost and Found**

Mrs. William Henke

## **Liaison**

Mrs. Fred Willrett

## **La Musicienne**

Mrs. Mae Chesack

## **Publicity**

Mrs. John Mahoney

## **Registration**

Miss Julia Markezich  
Vice Chairman, Mrs. Thomas N. Leervig

## **Tea, Chapeaux Nationaux Passes**

Mrs. James Menendez  
Co-chairman, Miss Ruth Hitch

## **Transportation**

Mrs. Clarence Kates

## **Tropies, Awards, and History Display**

Mrs. Howard Houser  
Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Ivan Mitchell



# MAKE EDUCATION TOP PRIORITY



**American  
Education  
Week**

OCTOBER 22-28, 1972

National Sponsors of  
American Education Week

**THE AMERICAN LEGION**

**NATIONAL EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION**

**NATIONAL CONGRESS OF  
PARENTS AND TEACHERS**

**UNITED STATES  
OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

*This year over fifty other national groups with a membership in excess of 25 million have joined as "Supporting Organizations" in the observance of American Education Week.*

For nearly as long as The American Legion has been in existence it has shared with other major organizations a deep concern for the proper education of American Youth. American Education Week is a major by-product of that concern. "MAKE EDUCATION TOP PRIORITY" will be the theme this year. More than 32,000,000 citizens are expected to visit their schools during this special week. Each American Legion Post is urged to plan early and participate with the co-sponsors for the observance.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION HAS SPONSORED AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK SINCE 1921**

*You have a stake in*

# ROTC

•AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN

•AS A LEGIONNAIRE

•AS A TAXPAYER

•AS A PARENT

•AS A STUDENT

•AS AN EMPLOYER

## SPONSOR THE AMERICAN LEGION ROTC ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, WRITE:  
NATIONAL SECURITY DIV.  
1608 K STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006



## **THE AMERICAN LEGION**

*Wishes to express its thanks and  
appreciation to the following companies  
which have contributed so substantially  
to the success of the 54th Annual  
National Convention*

**Gulf Oil Corporation**

**Royal Office Typewriters**

**Division of Litton Industries**

**Seagram Distillers Company**

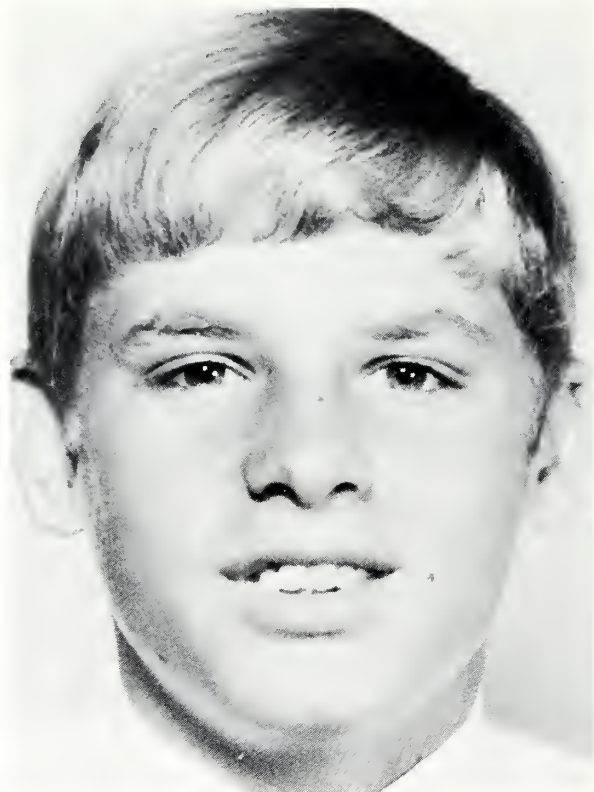
**Schenley Distillers Company**

**Illinois Bell Telephone Company**

**American National Red Cross**



# Today a boy...



# Tomorrow



**WILL THE LEGION TRUST  
HIS VITAL DEVELOPMENT TO  
THOSE WHO WRESTLE FOR  
HIS LOYALTY?**

*Join in partnership with  
the Boy Scouts of America—  
for today's youth.*



NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION

## **Would your son get more out of college three years from now?**

Some young men are ready to take full advantage of college right out of high school.

Some would be better off postponing it. For reasons of interest, maturity, affordability, whatever.

For the latter, today's Army represents a rewarding pre-college alternative. More rewarding in many ways than pumping gas, bagging groceries, or marking time in the company mailroom.

Today's Army is more than a place to mark time. It's a place where a young man can train, learn, have a responsible job, travel, and mature.

The starting salary and benefits are also attractive. Along with the \$288 a month to start, there are free meals, free housing, free clothing, free medical and dental care, and 30 days paid vacation a year.

Then, for the young man who successfully completes his 3-year enlistment, there's 36 months financial assistance at the college of his choice.

**Today's Army  
wants to join you.**

# National Emblem Sales

THE NEW LOOK FOR THE  
WELL DRESSED LEGIONNAIRE



**A. BLAZER:** "Year-round" tropical weight, 55% dacron; 45% wool. Popular features include gold buttons, silk embroidered emblem on outside pocket. Sizes 36 to 46 in short, regular, long, extra-long, or stout (portly). For sizes 48 and 50\* add \$2.50. Other sizes, special order, add \$5.00 with 5 weeks delivery. Give height, chest, and suit size when ordering.

**No. 77150** .....\$37.50

**B. TROUSERS\*:** All wool worsted regular weight (**No. 77100**); or light-weight tropical of 55% dacron, 45% wool (**No. 77050**). Give waist size and height. Sizes 29 to 46\* in short, regular and long.

**Trousers** .....\$14.95

\*Special size Blazers or Gray Trousers, add \$5.00 service charge with 5 weeks delivery.

**C. SHIRT.** New Permanent press 65% Dacron, 35% Cotton. Wash and wear including embroidered emblem on pocket. Short sleeve sizes small, medium, large and extra large in white (**No. 70384**) or light blue. Specify neck size.

**No. 70380** .....\$5.00

**D. BLUE AND GOLD STRIPE TIES:**

The perfect accent for your blazer and trousers. Acetate and rayon, button-down, 4-in-hand.

**No. 78098** .....\$2.00

Clip-on bow. **No. 78097** .....\$2.00

Clip-on 4-in-hand. **No. 78096** .....\$2.00

**E. NEW**

American Legion Regimental Style Tie, 3½ inches wide. Same colors as used on awards and medals. Ideal to wear with Blazer.

**No. 78095** .....\$3.00

**F. NEW**

Red, white and blue "Show Your Colors" tie. 4 inches wide.

**No. 78093** .....\$3.00

**G. BOB-TAIL SHORTY TIE:** Clip-on satin ribbon pre-tied shorty with emblem. Blue (**No. 70289**) or Gold (**No. 70295**) .....\$2.00

**H. LARIAT TIE:** Blue (**No. 70296**) or Gold (**No. 70295**) ....\$2.00

**I. Pocket Handkerchief**

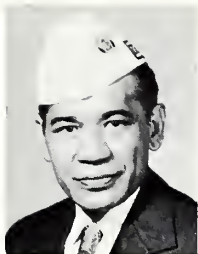
**No. 78094** .....\$ .10

We can imprint card on handkerchief on order of 100 or more \$8.00 per 100

A COMPLETE SELECTION OF EMBLEM MERCHANDISE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CONRAD HILTON, THE PALMER HOUSE, AND McCORMICK PLACE. YOUR PATRONAGE HELPS SUPPORT AMERICAN LEGION PROGRAMS.



# 1972's ACTION Team



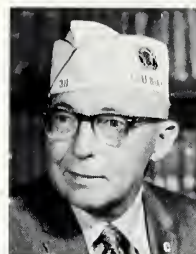
**Libert J. Pakele,  
Jr.**  
Hawaii



**Ernest Gober**  
Arkansas



**R. C. Gabrielson**  
South Dakota



**J. H. Morris**  
Louisiana



**Charles Robert  
Heavilin**  
Mexico



**Robert G. Blair**  
Alaska



**Dr. Robert J.  
Hitesman**  
Colorado



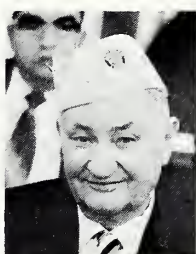
**Frank Piampiano**  
New Jersey



**Charles B. Hodson**  
North Carolina



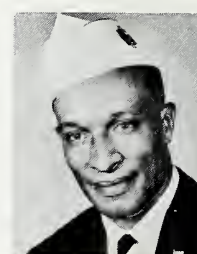
**Johnson E. Davis**  
Florida



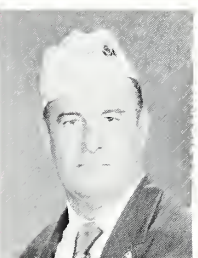
**Bert W. Casselman**  
Missouri



**Maynard Jensen**  
Nebraska



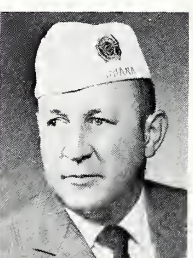
**Charles R. Green**  
Ohio



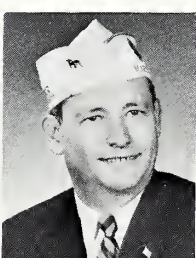
**Paul R. Walker**  
Panama, C. Z.



**Robert H.  
Vincelette**  
Vermont



**James R. Zoll**  
Indiana



**David A. Wade**  
Maryland



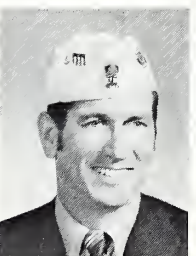
**Glenn H. Dornfeld**  
Minnesota



**Charles D. Tracy**  
New Hampshire



**Gerald A. Taylor**  
North Dakota



**Clifford Quinney**  
Maine



**Bob Rheinhold**  
Arizona



**Donald E. Neil**  
Delaware



**Jerome O. Guilds**  
France



**Dale L. Renaud**  
Iowa





**Gilliam W. Moody**  
Texas



**Horace Borders**  
Georgia



**Eugene W. Heugel**  
Michigan



**Ernest Stone**  
Alabama



**Norbert H. Gadlage**  
Kentucky



**Tommy Mills**  
Mississippi



**Oral O. Cox**  
South Carolina



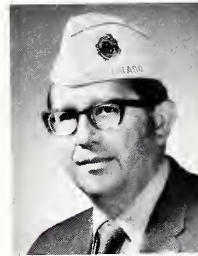
**Vernon Grosenick**  
Wisconsin



**William G. Kays**  
Pennsylvania



**Norman E. Iverson**  
Washington



**Albert M. Maestas**  
Colorado

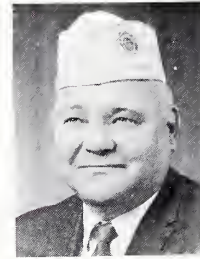


**Albin A. Multz**  
Montana

Here are the members of National Commander John H. Geiger's "ACTION Team" of 1972! In response to National Commander Geiger's challenge to make 1972 an "ACTION Year" for The American Legion, these Commanders led their respective Departments to the attainment of a minimum of 100 points, by 30 days prior to the 54th National Convention, under a scoring system set by the National Membership and Post Activities Committee. These Commanders showed that they were men of ACTION by leading their respective Departments to meet specified goals by designated membership target dates, and by chartering new American Legion Posts to help build an even more effective organization in the future. As these pages go to press, it appears that the 1972 "ACTION Team" has made possible the eighth consecutive year of membership gain for The American Legion.



**Fred Anderson, Jr.**  
Nevada



**Joe W. Darden**  
Tennessee



**George D. Siehl**  
West Virginia



**Marvin E. Jardon**  
Kansas



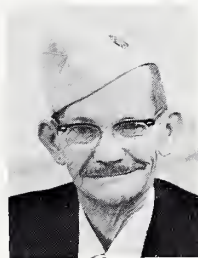
**Cecil L. Bandy**  
California



**Jack E. Rau**  
Philippines



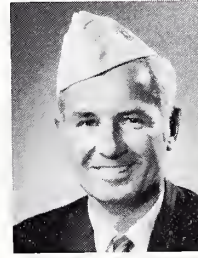
**Frank M. Shaffer**  
Wyoming



**Chet D. Hirsch**  
Connecticut



**Stewart W. Parker**  
District of Columbia



**John L. Gayle**  
Virginia



**Robert W. Durand**  
New Mexico



## PARADE OF CHAMPIONS

The national finals of the 1972 American Legion Junior and Senior Drum and Bugle Corps competition, the Parade of Champions, will be at 7 p.m., Sunday, August 20, in Chicago's Soldier Field.

A combination of 12 Junior and Senior Drum and Bugle Corps will compete in the Parade of Champions. They will be the top ranking units from both categories of competition as determined by preliminary competition in the Convention city.

The Parade of Champions shares the Convention spotlight for patriotic pageantry with the Convention Parade itself, and all units which take part in preliminary competition in any category of uniformed groups, from drill teams to singing groups, are required to take part in the parade.

The Parade of Champions is a stirring performance of patriotic pageantry involving the nation's finest musical, marching and maneuvering units in which the performers go all out to win the approval of audiences which invariably are appreciative and enthusiastic.

The Chicago area is familiar with uniformed groups competition as the windy city is the home of many times national champion color guards and firing squads sponsored by Post 118, and First National Bank Post No. 985, and has had a national champion Junior Drum and Bugle Corps within the past several years. The defending national champion American Legion Senior Band is from nearby Joliet, Ill., and the defending champion Junior Color Guard is the White Tornadoes from Momence, Ill.

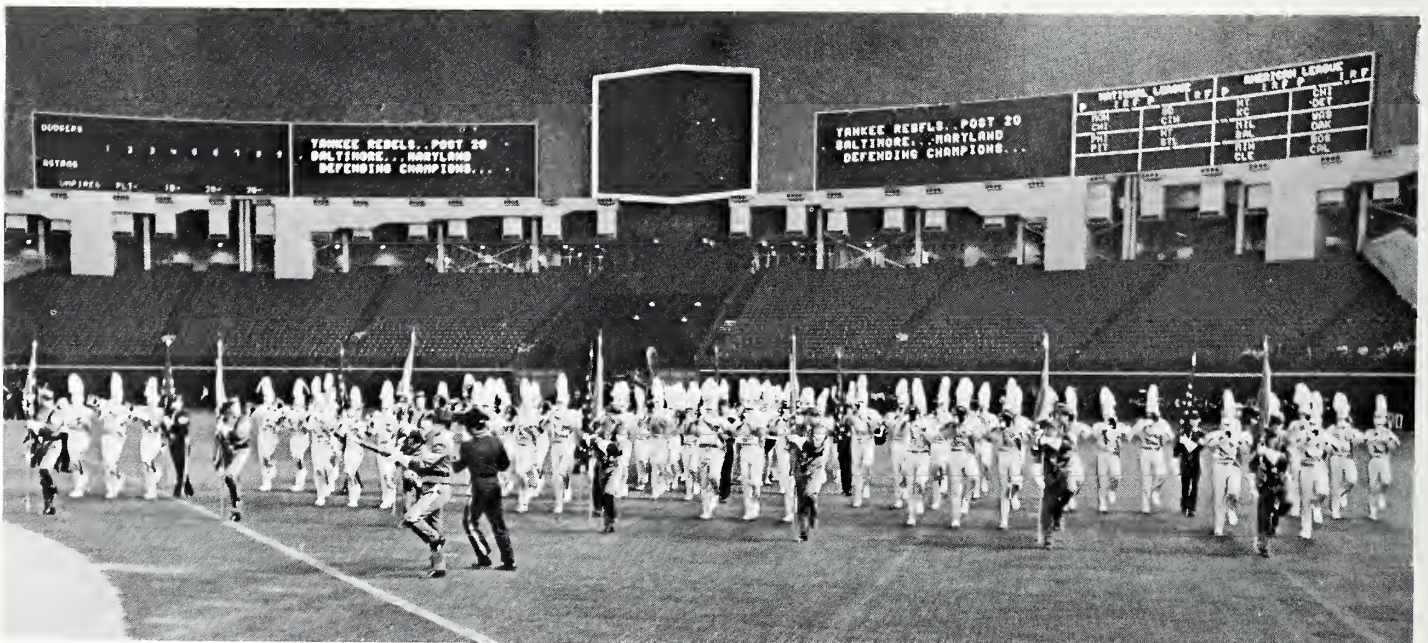
With this kind of interest in uniformed groups in the host department for the National Convention, it is anticipated



*The defending national championship Motorcycle Drill Team, sponsored by Indianapolis Police Post No. 56, Indianapolis, Ind., is pictured in one of their formations during a National Convention parade.*



*The Joliet Legion Band, of Post 1284, Joliet, Ill., formerly known as the A.R. McAllister Memorial Band, is the defending champion Senior Band in American Legion competition.*



*The Yankee Rebels, national champion among American Legion Senior Drum and Bugle Corps, are shown here successfully defending their title in Houston's Astrodome.*

*during the 1971 Legion National Convention. Sponsored by American Legion Post No. 20, of Baltimore, Md., this unit has taken the title for three consecutive years.*



that larger than normal Parade of Champions crowds will converge on Soldier Field for this event.

The Parade of Champions is the only event of the Convention open to the general public for which there is an admission charge. Seating on the concert side of the field in reserved sections is \$3 and the opposite side seating is \$2. For Convention registrants there is a coupon in the official convention program good for a 50-cent reduction on tickets in either price range.

Preliminary contests and final competition for all categories of uniformed groups will be conducted in the Convention city on Saturday and Sunday, August 19 and 20. These include Junior and Senior Drum and Bugle Corps if preliminary competition is necessary, Junior and Senior Bands, Junior and Senior Color Guards, Firing Squads, Motorcycle Drill Teams and Choruses and Quartettes.

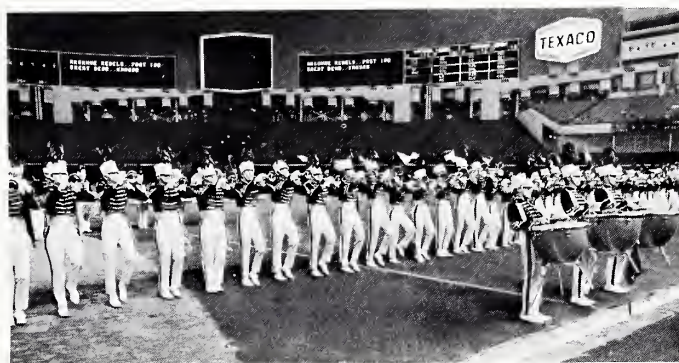
A complete schedule of all preliminary competition, and finals of those events that do not require preliminaries, may be found elsewhere in this program and Convention delegates, guests and the general public are invited to witness these events without cost.

Monday is National Convention parade day, and all of the units which compete on Saturday, Sunday and Sunday night will participate in the big parade.

While the scoring for contestants in the Parade of Champions is being completed, ceremonies on the field will include drawing for four new Ford automobiles. This part of the festivities is sponsored by the Seagrams Posts of The American Legion and this is the 26th consecutive year for Seagrams' participation in the program. Seagrams Posts are located in Illinois, California and New York. Their sponsorship of the new car program has provided an extra attraction for the Parade of Champions and all Legionnaires and Auxiliary members in good standing are eligible to win whether they are at the Convention or not.



*The Little Bills, sponsored by American Legion Post No. 118, of Chicago, Ill., is the defending national championship Firing Squad among American Legion uniformed groups.*



*The Argonne Rebels, sponsored by Post 180, Great Bend, Kansas, is the defending national champion Junior Drum and Bugle Corps among American Legion competitors.*



*The American Legion national champion Junior Band is the Los Angeles Police Post 381, organization from Los Angeles, Calif. This outstanding unit performs in many nationally famed parades such as the Rose Bowl Parade on New Years Day from Pasadena, Calif., in addition to American Legion National Convention parades.*





**BOYS' CLUBS OF AMERICA**  
BUILD JUVENILE DECENCY

## ALL IS NOT LOST!

- IN** today's worried world, it's easy to believe that "all is lost" and that all our youngsters are on that soap opera "road to ruin."
- IN** more than 960 Boys' Clubs of America across this great country of ours however, almost a million boys of every shape, size, color and condition offer enthusiastic proof that all is *not* lost.
- IN** Boys' Clubs, respect for law and order, for their elders, and for their country aren't just a preachment, they're a daily practice . . . a practice which has built "Juvenile DECENCY" for well over a century.
- IN** the Boys' Clubs of America movement we're proud of the great support we receive from so many American Legion posts, proud of the fact we serve so many boys whose fathers are Legionnaires . . . proud of our next generation . . . *the only next generation we've got!*



**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

**PRIDE IN THE PAST - FAITH IN THE FUTURE**



# The American Legion Salutes Outstanding Students At Military Academies



*Cadet Donald A. Peppers, Herculaneum, Missouri, of the United States Air Force Academy receives The American Legion Award from National Vice Commander Harry G. Wiles of Kansas.*



*Cadet Richard M. Gutekunst, Gwynned, Pennsylvania, receives The American Legion Award at the United States Naval Academy. National Commander Arthur M. MacCarthy of Florida presents the award*



*National Vice Commander Roy Sweet of Vermont presents The American Legion Award to Gary M. Heil, Rockville, Maryland, of the United States Coast Guard Academy.*



*Sterling G. West of St. Petersburg, Florida is the winner of The American Legion Award at the United States Military Academy. National Vice Commander Harold W. Fann of Kentucky makes the presentation.*



# NAVY OF THE 70's SALUTE YOU



## There need be no "bargaining table" when the plea is for humane treatment of prisoners of war.

**T**HE prisoner-of-war issue is complex and confusing. It is loaded with political overtones and emotional tension.

But one side of the prisoner-of-war issue is simple. That's the part which deals with the condition of prisoners.

Who are they? Where are they? How are they?

Those are the questions the families of American prisoners want answered. Those are the questions the conscience of the world wants answered...now.

Of course, they want the war to end and the prisoners of war to be released as soon as possible.

But meanwhile there is no need for Hanoi and its allies to delay

even a day in answering this plea:

Admit official neutral observers into the prison camps in North Vietnam, South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, where Americans are being held in secret captivity.

Assure the world, through these neutral observers, that American prisoners are being decently and humanely treated, according to the standards of civilized nations.

Hanoi can do this without bargaining, even without consultation.

By opening the prisons now to official neutral observers, Hanoi would earn the gratitude of millions of Americans and find new stature in the eyes of the world.

We ask and pray they will.

### SUPPORT OUR PLEA TO HANOI AND ITS ALLIES:


Clear away the doubts —  
Open your prison camps to  
neutral observers...  
now!

We ask no more than we give. All American and South Vietnamese prison camps are inspected regularly by official neutral observers — The International Committee of the Red Cross.

✚ American Red Cross

National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia.

1608 "K" Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006

Advertising contributed for the public good 

From Arctic to Antarctic, Ocean to Ocean.



throughout  
the  
United States  
Coast Guardsmen  
all over  
the world,  
salute  
dedicated  
American  
Legionnaires  
everywhere  
for their untiring  
support  
of our Armed Forces

**Tough  
club  
to get  
into.**

The Marines  
are looking for  
a few good men.

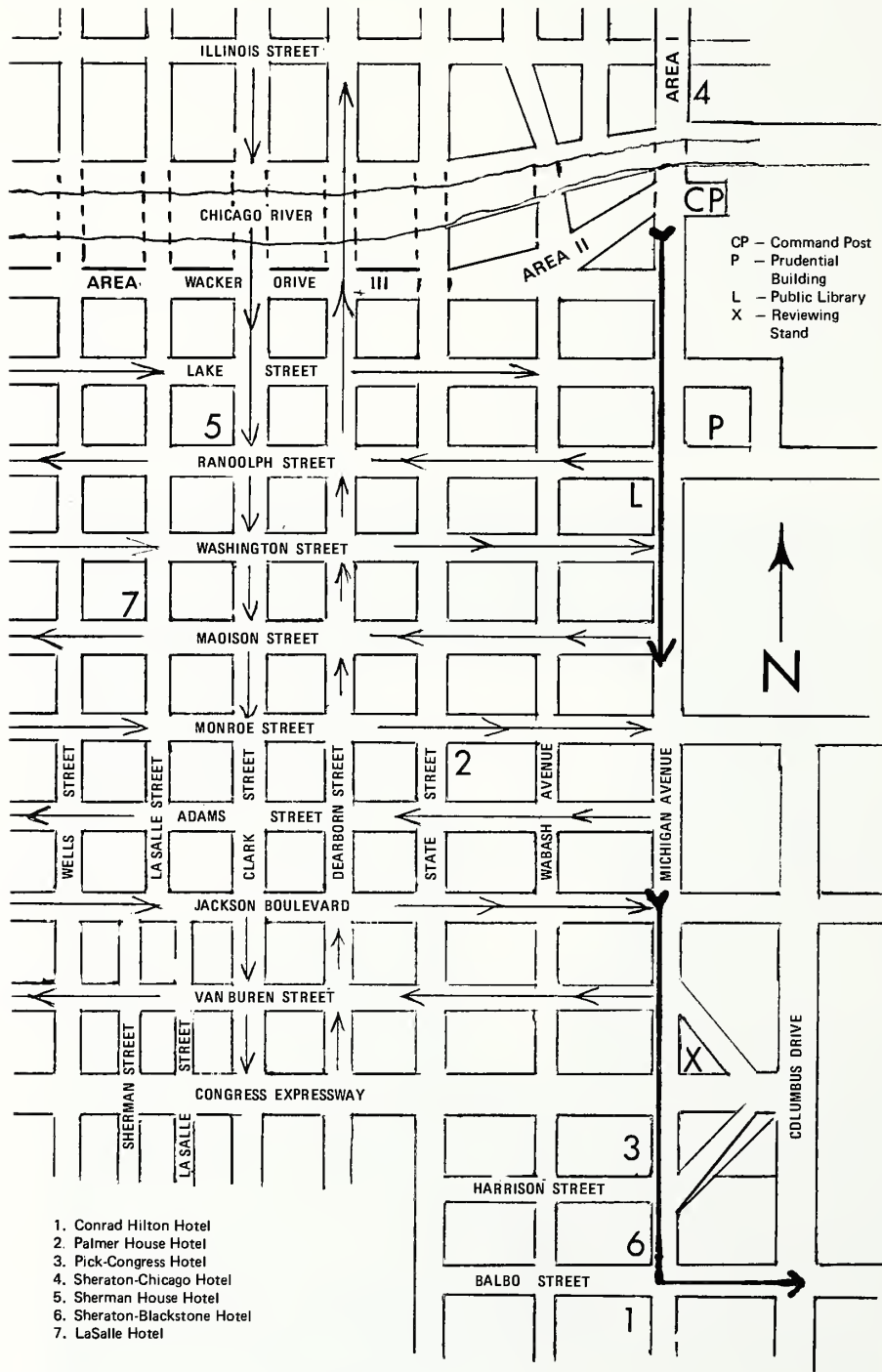
Apply now for leadership training this summer.





# Parade Information

## The American Legion 54th National Convention



**DATE:** Monday, August 21, 1972

**TIME:** 10:00 A.M.

**FORMATION AREA:**

See Attached Map

**ROUTE:** On Michigan Avenue, from Wacker Drive, south to Balbo Drive, turn east to disbanding area.

**REVIEWING STAND:** On east side of Michigan Avenue, north of Congress Parkway.

**DISBANDING AREA:** On Balbo Drive, east of Michigan Avenue, then north and south on Columbus Drive.

# PARADE ORDERS

## THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL CONVENTION PARADE

Monday, August 21, 1972

10:00 A. M.

### PARADE CHAIRMAN

Edward A. "Mr. Ed" Schalk  
5000 North Merrimae Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60630

### PARADE VICE CHAIRMAN

John P. Crawford  
1017 North Lawlor Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60651

### HONORARY MARSHAL

Richard J. Daley  
Mayor  
City of Chicago

### GRAND MARSHAL

Rear Admiral Draper L. Kauffman, USN  
Commandant, 9th Naval District  
Building One  
Great Lakes, Illinois 60088

### HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL

Alfred P. Chamie  
8480 Beverly Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California 90048

### DEPUTY GRAND MARSHALS

#### Major General Robert R. Fairburn USMC

Commanding General  
Marine Corps Supply Activity  
1100 South Broad Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19146

#### Major General Homer I. Lewis, USAF

Air Force Chief of Reserve  
Headquarters United States Air Force  
Washington, D. C. 20330

#### Major General Jack J. Wagstaff, USA

Deputy Commanding General for  
Reserve Forces  
Northern Area Command, 5th Army  
Fort Sheridan, Illinois 60037

#### Rear Admiral James D. Ramage, USN

Commander Naval Air Reserve and  
Commander Naval Air Reserve Force  
Naval Air Station  
Glenview, Illinois 60026

#### Rear Admiral Arnold I. Sobel, USCGR

529 Longwood  
Glencoe, Illinois 60022

### COORDINATING COMMANDER Captain William A. Johnson, USNR

Commanding Officer  
U.S. Naval Reserve Center  
Foot of Randolph Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60601



## PARADE ORDER

The official parade of the 54th National Convention of The American Legion will be governed by instructions contained herein, together with the Organization and March Time Table and Assembly and Disbanding Area Map, which are made a part hereof.

### 1. TIME: (All times in these orders are Central Daylight Time.)

- (a) The leading element of the parade will move from the "Initial Point" (corner of Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive) promptly at 10:00 A.M., Monday, August 21, 1972, regardless of weather.
- (b) The time and place of assembly for each Department or element of the Parade will be shown in detail on the Organization and March Time Table, a copy of which has been sent to each Department Adjutant and to the Department Parade Chairmen. **A meeting of all Department Parade Chairmen will be held at 10:00 A.M., Sunday, August 20, 1972, in the Grand Ballroom of the Conrad Hilton Hotel.**
- (c) A liaison man (PAL) has been assigned to each Department by the Parade Committee. This liaison man will contact each Department well in advance of the parade and offer every assistance.
- (d) A Parade Official will meet his assigned division at the assembly area, following unloading. He will, with the assistance of the liaison man who has been assigned to the Department, direct the buses toward the route to the disbanding area.
- (e) Because of the nature of the assembly area, accurate logistics are essential. **PROMPTNESS IN ARRIVAL AT THE ASSEMBLY AREA IS MANDATORY.**

### 2. ROUTE:

On Michigan Avenue, south from Wacker Drive to Balbo Drive, east on Balbo Drive to disbanding area.

### 3. ASSEMBLY AREAS:

- (a) Assembly areas are as follows: (Refer to attached map)
  - Area #1 - On Michigan from Ohio to the Chicago River
  - Area #2 - On Wacker from Michigan west to Franklin Street
- (b) Additional instructions for each Department will be furnished by the Parade Committee at the meeting of the Department Parade Chairmen on Sunday, August 20, at 10:00 A.M., in the Ballroom of the Conrad Hilton Hotel.
- (c) Signs carrying Department name will designate the head of each Department assembly point.

- (d) Floats will be assembled in the same general area of each of the Department areas.

## 4. ORGANIZATION:

- (a) All elements have been assigned to Divisions, each under the direction of a parade official. The composition of these Divisions, order of March, and time and place of assembly is shown on the Organization and March Time Table and Assembly and Disbanding Area Map supplied to Department Parade Chairmen.
- (b) All Department of Defense Units will be governed by applicable regulations.
- (c) Each Department Commander or appointed parade representative will be responsible for the order of march and promptness of arrival at the assembly area of all units of his Department. All units will conform to the following distribution and formation:
  - (1) **MASSED COLORS: Eight (8) abreast**  
All American Flags, the Department and Post colors of each Department and the Department and Unit Colors of each Department of the Auxiliary, will be massed at the head of each Department Delegation in that order.
  - (2) American Legion Units within Departments will march in formation eight (8) abreast, one and one-half yards between ranks.
  - (3) **BAND and DRUM CORPS:** As directed by Drum Majors, but not to exceed eight (8) abreast
  - (4) Authorized floats and automobiles in single column. No unauthorized floats or automobiles will be allowed to participate. **All vehicles participating in the parade must be equipped with identifying signs on sides thereof, and must also carry an "OFFICIAL CAR" sticker on the windshield.**
  - (5) **No maneuvers except for a forward movement - THIS IS A MUST.** All violaters will be dismissed from the parade immediately.

### (d) DISTANCES:

- (1) Between Divisions—30 yards
- (2) Between Departments—20 yards
- (3) Between elements of a Department—10 yards

## 5. DISBANDING AREA:

The Disbanding Area is as follows:

East on Balbo Drive to Columbus Drive, then north or south, as space permits.

## 6. OFFICIAL REVIEWING STAND:

The official reviewing stand will be located on the East side of Michigan Avenue, north of Congress Parkway, south of Van Buren Street. Elements will

render a salute to the National Commander while passing the reviewing stand (eyes left). Warning signs at 400 and 200 feet will inform all units of the distance to the reviewing stand.

## 7. ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARADE AND CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS:

- (a) Pursuant to a resolution adopted at a meeting of the National Convention Commission at Miami Beach on March 12, 1960, there will be no participation of any vehicles, equipment or items of wearing apparel of the 40 et 8. This regulation will be enforced by the Parade Committee of the 1972 Convention Corporation.
- (b) With the exception of police, military and naval escort, and distinguished guests, eligibility to participate in the parade is limited to the members of The American Legion and the uniformed bodies of The American Legion Auxiliary, subject to restriction of the following activities which shall be prohibited in the line of march:
  - (1) The drinking of or simulated drinking of intoxicants.
  - (2) Participants under the influence of intoxicants.
  - (3) Use of water pistols and electric shocking devices.
  - (4) Female impersonators.
  - (5) Firecrackers and any other explosives.
  - (6) Any presentation or representation either immoral or in bad taste.
  - (7) Distribution of souvenirs, promotional or advertising material, either from floats or by marching units.
- (c) Violators of any of the above rules will be dismissed from the parade immediately.

## 8. FIRST AID STATIONS:

First Aid Stations will be established in the assembly area at intervals along the line of march and the disbanding area.

## 9. PARKING OF CHARTERED OR POST BUSES:

After unloading at the assigned assembly area, buses will proceed to the assigned disbanding area. The liaison official (PAL), will meet his assigned delegation at the disbanding area and will conduct it to its parked bus or buses (personal belongings and all equipment must be removed from the buses when unloading at the assembly area.)

## MARCH ORDER ESCORT DIVISION

Assembly Area #1  
Assemble at 9:00 A.M.  
Departure at 10:00 A.M.

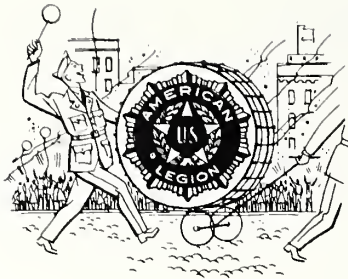
- A. ESCORT
- \*B. HONORARY MARSHAL
- \*C. GRAND MARSHAL
- \*D. HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL
- \*E. DEPUTY GRAND MARSHALS
- \*F. COORDINATING COMMANDER
- \* Bus transportation for dignitaries will be provided and will depart from the Eighth Street entrance of the Conrad Hilton Hotel. **This bus will depart at precisely 9:15 A.M., and will be taken by police escort to the proper parade assembly area.**
- G. UNITED STATES ARMY
- H. UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
- I. UNITED STATES NAVY
- J. UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
- K. UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
- L. NATIONAL GUARD
- M. UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE
- N. UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE

## I DIVISION

Assembly Area #2  
Assemble at 9:00 A.M.

10. 1. The American Legion 1971 National Championship Band
2. National Colors and 1971 National Championship Color Guard
3. National Commander, The American Legion
4. National President, The American Legion Auxiliary
5. National Officers
6. The American Legion 1971 National Championship Drum and Bugle Corps
7. Past National Commanders
8. Society of The American Legion Founders
9. The American Legion Youth Awards Winners
10. Sons of The American Legion
11. The American Legion 1971 National Championship Chorus, Junior Drum and Bugle Corps, Junior Color Guard, Firing Squad and Motorcycle Drill Team.
12. The American National Red Cross
13. Seagram Posts' Float
14. Foreign and Outlying Departments
  - France
  - Canada
  - Panama
  - Mexico
  - Philippines
  - Italy
15. Hawaii





## II DIVISION

Assembly Area #3  
Assemble at 9:30 A.M.

16. Maryland
17. Arkansas
18. Alaska
19. North Dakota
20. Minnesota
21. North Carolina
22. Ohio

## III DIVISION

Assembly Area #1  
Assemble at 10:00 A.M.

23. Louisiana
24. Delaware
25. Florida
26. South Dakota
27. Nebraska
28. Indiana
29. Missouri
30. Montana

## IV DIVISION

Assembly Area #2  
Assemble at 11:00 A.M.

31. New Jersey
32. Vermont
33. Nevada
34. Maine
35. Alabama
36. Wisconsin

## V DIVISION

Assembly Area #3  
Assemble at 12:00 Noon

37. South Carolina
38. Kansas
39. New Hampshire
40. Iowa
41. Connecticut
42. Tennessee
43. Colorado

## VI DIVISION

Assembly Area #1  
Assemble at 1:00 P.M.

44. Pennsylvania
45. Arizona
46. Texas
47. Utah
48. Michigan
49. Oregon
50. Mississippi
51. Washington

## VII DIVISION

Assembly Area #2  
Assemble at 2:00 P.M.

52. Oklahoma
53. Rhode Island
54. California
55. West Virginia
56. Virginia
57. Georgia
58. Kentucky

## VIII DIVISION

Assembly Area #3  
Assemble at 3:00 P.M.

59. Wyoming
60. Idaho
61. New York
62. Massachusetts
63. New Mexico
64. District of Columbia
65. Puerto Rico

## IX DIVISION

Assembly Area #1  
Assemble at 3:30 P.M.

66. Illinois



# HOST CITY BALL



in

**OLD  
CHICAGO**

**TUESDAY,  
AUGUST 22, 1972**

**9:30 p.m.  
to  
12:30 a.m.**

**CONRAD HILTON HOTEL**

**GRAND BALLROOM AND  
INTERNATIONAL BALLROOMS**

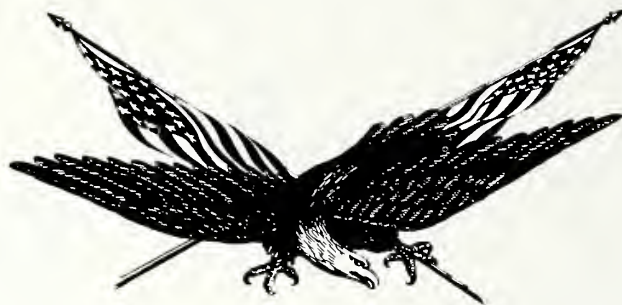
**\$1.00**

**WITH YOUR OFFICIAL  
CONVENTION BADGE**

*... Costumes optional*







## **ANNUAL REPORT**

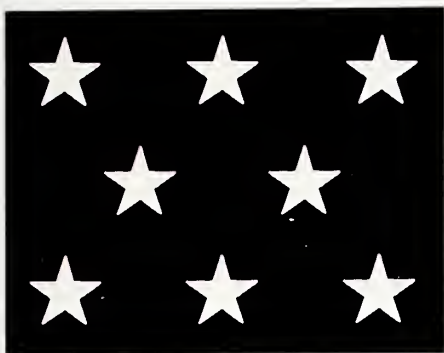
The final pages of this official program of the 54th Annual National Convention of The American Legion contain a condensed annual report for the 1971-72 American Legion year. A complete, detailed report has been prepared for submission to the Congress of the United States in accordance with requirements of the Legion's Congressionally-granted charter.

Believing that the delegates to the National Convention are entitled to receive a concise statement of the major activities of The American Legion year ending with this National Convention, your national headquarters provides this illustrated report as a part of the official program. In this manner, we are assured that every delegate and every one who registers for the convention will receive the condensed annual report.

### **AIRLINE TRANSPORTATION**

All major airlines serving Chicago have offices in the loop area, readily accessible from the Conrad Hilton Hotel, the Palmer House and other hotels housing convention delegates and guests. In view of the accessibility of existing permanent facilities, no transportation center is contemplated:

We moved out from our 1971 National Convention in Houston with the promise that it was "Action Time" for The American Legion, and under the dynamic leadership of National Commander John H. Geiger, and in service to his theme, "Reach Out - - It's Action Time," truly we have enjoyed a year of forceful and effective action.



The Houston Convention itself had devoted considerable time and thought to one of the first major projects to be undertaken by the Legion this year—an effort to be helpful in the local community by making local Legion posts into centers of drug information for people with drug problems. The Convention had adopted a comprehensive statement of policy on drug abuse, believed to be the first of its kind ever adopted by a major national organization. The statement was supplemented with a 14-point recommended program of action for the local post, printed as a brochure and given a total post distribution.

Almost as quickly, the Legion geared to take effective action to block any attempt to weaken or destroy the program of hospital-medical care available for veterans through the Veterans Administration. The Convention directed the National Commander to name a committee to study the threat to the VA program, as posed by merger with or subordination to any other health delivery system, and to recommend the Legion's course of action. That committee made an interim report in March, which was adopted by the NEC by mail ballot in April. It will make a further report to our Chicago Convention. As a result of this committee's work, the Legion will be prepared to counter any threat to the VA as it arises.

During our Washington Conference our National Commander was given a most timely opportunity to offer American Legion testimony on the subject of amnesty for draft dodgers and deserters. Parts of that testimony later were used on a television network documentary on the subject.

Our continuing work with Viet-time veterans in our Jobs for Veterans program has been a most rewarding effort, and our continuing cooperation with the families of those held as prisoner of war and listed as missing in action in Southeast Asia, while gratifying, has yet to be crowned with success. We trust that it will.

Highlights of these and other Legion action programs for the year 1971-72 are contained in the condensed annual report comprising the remainder of this program. We invite your attention to it.

WILLIAM F. HAUCK  
*National Adjutant*

### **The American Legion 54th Annual Report**

A full, detailed report has been submitted to the Congress of the United States in accordance with the provisions of Public Law 249, 77th Congress, approved September 18, 1941.



## National Officers



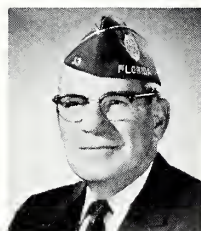
**John H. Gelger**  
(Illinois)  
National Commander



**William F. Hauck**  
(Indiana)  
National Adjutant



**Harold W. Fann**  
(Kentucky)  
National Vice Commander



**Arthur M. MacCarthy**  
(Florida)  
National Vice Commander



**Roy Sweet**  
(Vermont)  
National Vice Commander



**Wallace C.S. Young**  
(Hawaii)  
National Vice Commander



**Harry G. Wiles**  
(Kansas)  
National Vice Commander



**Rev. Paul J. Schwaab**  
(Nebraska)  
National Chaplain



**G. Greer McCallister**  
(Ohio)  
National Historian



**Bertram G. Davis**  
(New York)  
National Judge Advocate



**W. Francis Polen**  
(Indiana)  
National Treasurer

The American Legion, now in its 54th year, is an organization comprised of veterans of service with the armed forces of the United States during four periods of conflict: World War I; World War II; Korea and Vietnam.

Founded by American veterans of World War I, the Legion's purpose as a patriotic service organization, dedicated to the service of God and country, has remained constant through the years. Brought into being as a result of two organizational caucuses, the first in Paris, France, March 15-17, 1919, and the second in St. Louis, Mo., May 8-10, 1919 the Legion, by action of its first National Convention, selected Indianapolis, Ind., as the site of its permanent National Headquarters. At the same convention, authorization was given for the establishment of a women's Auxiliary which now numbers nearly a million members.

Both The American Legion and the Auxiliary maintain offices in Washington, D.C. Principal offices of The American Legion Magazine are in New York City.

The National Commander, elected by action of the National Convention to serve until the next National Convention which selects his successor, is the organization's chief executive officer. Other national officers chosen by Convention action are five National Vice Commanders and a National Chaplain.

John H. Geiger, of Des Plaines, Ill., was chosen at the 53rd Annual National Convention to serve as National Commander for 1971-72. Major accomplishments of the Legion during his term of office are discussed in the following pages of this program and condensed annual report.

William F. Hauck, of Indiana, National Adjutant, is the chief administrative officer of the Legion. The Adjutant, the National Judge Advocate, the National Historian and the National Treasurer are selected on the recommendation of the National Commander with concurrence of the National Executive Committee.

## The National Executive Committee

Between National Conventions, the administrative authority of The American Legion is exercised by the National Executive Committee composed of the National Commander, the five National Vice Commanders, National Chaplain, and one committeeman (plus alternate) elected by each Department. Past National Commanders are life members of the NEC without vote. The NEC appoints the National Adjutant, Treasurer, Judge Advocate and Historian. The NEC also has full and complete control over the annual budget.

### National Executive Committeemen

Alabama .....	<i>Hugh W. Overton</i>	Missouri.....	<i>James P. Dobel, Jr.</i>
Alaska.....	<i>George Petrovich</i>	Montana .....	<i>Franklin D. Pehrson</i>
Arizona .....	<i>Robert E. Cockrill</i>	Nebraska.....	<i>Jerome N. Henn</i>
Arkansas.....	<i>Lawrence E. Fisher</i>	Nevada.....	<i>Thomas W. Miller</i>
California.....	<i>James A. Gilbert</i>	New Hampshire .....	<i>Laurence R. Spaulding</i>
Canada.....	<i>Robert I. Hendershott</i>	New Jersey.....	<i>Edmund G. Lyons</i>
Colorado.....	<i>Robert Grauberger</i>	New Mexico.....	<i>G. Y. Fails</i>
Connecticut.....	<i>Joseph G. Leonard</i>	New York .....	<i>Aldo R. Benedetto</i>
Delaware.....	<i>Thomas W. Mulrooney</i>	North Carolina .....	<i>Leroy S. Lakey</i>
District of Columbia.....	<i>Hy Wayne</i>	North Dakota .....	<i>Patrick T. Milloy</i>
Florida.....	<i>John J. Adams</i>	Ohio.....	<i>Donald L. Gruenbaum</i>
France.....	<i>James E. Zulick</i>	Oklahoma .....	<i>Eldridge Colston</i>
Georgia.....	<i>W. D. Harrell</i>	Oregon.....	<i>Don Eva</i>
Hawaii .....	<i>Jessie J. Cotter</i>	Panama, C.Z.....	<i>Arnold A. Hannberg</i>
Idaho .....	<i>Melvin J. Alsagar</i>	Pennsylvania .....	<i>Daniel A. Drew</i>
Illinois.....	<i>Norman J. Biebel</i>	Philippines .....	<i>Simeon C. Medalla</i>
Indiana.....	<i>Melvin H. Heckman</i>	Puerto Rico .....	<i>William Feliciano</i>
Iowa.....	<i>Stewart H. M. Lund</i>	Rhode Island .....	<i>Louis R. J. Malo</i>
Italy .....	<i>H. Armand deMasi</i>	South Carolina .....	<i>E. Roy Stone, Jr.</i>
Kansas .....	<i>U. S. "Udie" Grant</i>	South Dakota .....	<i>Glenn R. Green</i>
Kentucky.....	<i>Harry A. Greene, Jr.</i>	Tennessee.....	<i>Robert J. Foster</i>
Louisiana .....	<i>Robert Charles Smith</i>	Texas .....	<i>Jack W. Flynt</i>
Maine.....	<i>Reginald J. Dennis</i>	Utah.....	<i>William E. Christoffersen</i>
Maryland .....	<i>Jack E. Dyke</i>	Vermont.....	<i>Francis J. Moriarity</i>
Massachusetts .....	<i>Leo F. Malloy</i>	Virginia.....	<i>Thomas J. Gear</i>
Mexico.....	<i>Fred W. Soto</i>	Washington.....	<i>Dr. John M. Woods</i>
Michigan.....	<i>Edwin J. Schuitema</i>	West Virginia .....	<i>L. O. Bickel</i>
Minnesota .....	<i>Eugene V. Lindquist</i>	Wisconsin.....	<i>L. H. "Rennie" Baker</i>
Mississippi .....	<i>Ralph M. Godwin</i>	Wyoming .....	<i>Norman J. Guster</i>

### Past National Commanders

<i>Thomas W. Miller</i> .....	Nevada (PNC, 1968 Natl. Conv.)	<i>W. C. Daniel</i> .....	Virginia
<i>John R. Quinn</i> .....	California	<i>John S. Gleason, Jr.</i> .....	Illinois
<i>Harry W. Colmery</i> .....	Kansas	<i>Preston J. Moore</i> .....	Oklahoma
<i>Daniel J. Doherty</i> .....	Massachusetts	<i>Martin B. McKneally</i> .....	New York
<i>Stephen F. Chadwick</i> .....	Washington	<i>William R. Burke</i> .....	California
<i>Raymond J. Kelly</i> .....	Michigan	<i>Charles L. Bacon</i> .....	Missouri
<i>Warren H. Atherton</i> .....	California	<i>James E. Powers</i> .....	Georgia
<i>Paul H. Griffith</i> .....	Pennsylvania	<i>Daniel F. Foley</i> .....	Minnesota
<i>James F. O'Neil</i> .....	New Hampshire	<i>Donald E. Johnson</i> .....	Iowa
<i>S. Perry Brown</i> .....	Texas	<i>L. Eldon James</i> .....	Virginia
<i>George N. Craig</i> .....	Indiana	<i>John E. Davis</i> .....	North Dakota
<i>Erle Cocke, Jr.</i> .....	Georgia	<i>William E. Galbraith</i> .....	Nebraska
<i>Donald R. Wilson</i> .....	West Virginia	<i>William C. Doyle</i> .....	New Jersey
<i>Seaborn P. Collins</i> .....	New Mexico	<i>J. Milton Patrick</i> .....	Oklahoma
<i>J. Addington Wagner</i> .....	Michigan	<i>Alfred P. Chamie</i> .....	California



# Our "Action Time" Commander In Action



"Reach Out-It's Action Time," all began here in Houston as John H. Geiger, (left) raises his hand in a victory salute upon his election as National Commander of The American Legion. His wife, Vivienne, joined him on the platform as they were introduced by retiring National Commander Alfred P. Chamie.



Courtesy call on the President of the United States to present a bound copy of resolutions enacted by the 53rd Annual National Convention, was one of the new Commander's earliest official calls following his election.



In a not-so-traditional appearance, but what actually is a first for The American Legion, Commander Geiger presents Legion Rehabilitation-Legislative testimony for the first time before the recently established Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.



Five National Vice Commanders and a National Chaplain were elected also by Convention action, and these men formed the Commander's "cabinet" in Reaching Out actively to America.



Commander Geiger introduces Richard G. Lugar, Mayor of Indianapolis, Ind., host city of the Legion's National Headquarters as the Mayor appears as guest speaker at the Commander's banquet for the spring meetings of the National Executive Committee.



Fred Webster, Adjutant of Commander Geiger's home Post, Hiram J. Slifer Post No. 135, of Chicago, receives a special memento from the National Commander during the banquet for the NEC, which also was Adjutant Webster's 80th birthday.

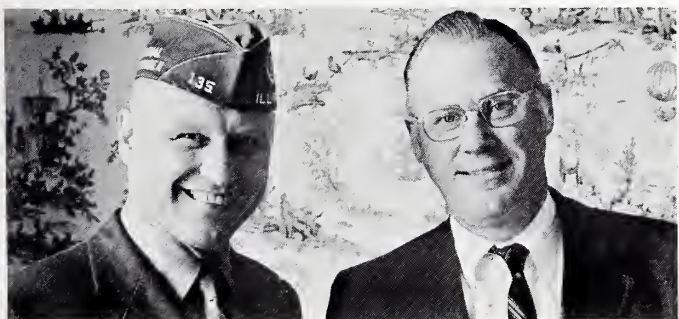




Upon arrival at the Manila International Airport, National Commander John H. Geiger, right, was met by General Agustin Marking, Commander, Veterans Organization of the Philippines, left, and Department Commander Simeon C. Medalla, center.



The Legion's concern for the youth of America is exemplified here as Commander Geiger receives Carmen Doneso, of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, the 1972 March of Dimes Poster Child, and her brother Christopher, during traditional call on the Legion leader in his offices.



National Commander John H. Geiger meets with Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn for a general discussion of The American Legion Baseball program and its relationship with organized baseball.



American Legion testimony on the organization's current Rehabilitation-Legislative program is presented by Commander Geiger before the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. The appearance is traditional.



An official call to the State Department is another of the new National Commander's early "must" visits. Here Commander Geiger calls upon Secretary of State William P. Rogers and during visit the Secretary receives his current American Legion membership card from officers of the State Department Legion Post.



The Legion's Distinguished Service Award for 1972 is presented by Commander Geiger to Illinois' 17 District Representative Leslie C. Arends, House Minority Whip, during the National Commander's banquet honoring the Congress of the United States.





**Daniel J. O'Connor**  
**Americanism**

## AMERICANISM

**Daniel J. O'Connor (New York), Chairman**  
**Fred T. Kuszmaul (Indiana), Director**

Our American way of life has become increasingly complex in recent years and coupled with this increased complexity of life has come a growing turbulence and divergent philosophies. Your National Americanism Commission in recognition of these developments has intensified its Americanism programs to serve as a bulwark to preserve our American heritage and to instill in our youth the necessary ingredients for good citizenship.

## Baseball

American Legion Baseball is culminating its 47th season of nation-wide competition as this Convention convenes. Eight regional champions, from among the nearly 4,000 teams fielded by American Legion Posts and sponsors, are being determined throughout the country this week in preparation for the 1972 World Series at Memphis, Tenn.,



*National Commander John H. Geiger, and National Education Association President Mrs. Catherine Barrett, are shown in the NEA recording studio taping materials for use in promotion of American Education Week.*

Aug. 31-Sept. 5.

Nearly two thirds of all major league baseball players this season gained training and experience in the Legion program before they signed their first professional contract. More and more participants are realizing college educations as a result of scholarships granted following exposure in this athletic activity first sponsored by The American Legion in 1925.

## Oratorical

The 35th Annual National High School Oratorical Contest Finals were held this year on the campus of Weir High School, Weirton, W. Va., on April 20, 1972. The four finalists represent thousands of contestants from nearly all Departments of The American Legion.

**FIRST PLACE - \$8,000 Scholarship**

Thomas W. Joiner, Rock Hill, South Carolina

**SECOND PLACE - \$5,000 Scholarship**

Channing R. Taylor, Lincoln, Nebraska

**THIRD PLACE - \$3,000 Scholarship**

Donnie Paul Minyard, Marietta, Oklahoma

**FOURTH PLACE - \$2,000 Scholarship**

Kathleen McCormick, Cambridge, Massachusetts

These scholarships were made available through The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund.

## Boys State/Boys Nation

This year more than 28,000 young men participated in the Boys State programs. From their respective Boys State programs of city, county and state governmental instructions, two outstanding young men were selected to attend Boys Nation, which was held on the campus of American University, Washington, D. C., July 13-20. The Boys Nation delegates were instructed in the functioning of our Federal Government and were afforded firsthand experience through the visitation of Federal Agencies. Continued emphasis is encouraged for the program on the state and national levels.



*These youngsters are the finalists in the 1972 American Legion National High School Oratorical contest conducted in Weirton, W. Va., and hosted by Weirton Post No. 10. Pictured (left to right) are: Thomas Joiner, of South Carolina, first place; Channing Taylor, of Nebraska, second; Donnie Paul Minyard, Oklahoma, third; and Kathleen Ann McCormick of Massachusetts, fourth.*



## Boy Scouts of America

The American Legion continues its support in the sponsorship of Boy Scout units by Legion Posts throughout the country. Although reports of Legion sponsorship indicate a gradual decline, progress is being made to formulate a competitive program which will rejuvenate participation. Positive results should be experienced in the near future.

## Boys' Clubs of America

The American Legion and Boys' Clubs of America continue to strengthen their partnership in combatting juvenile delinquency by furnishing constructive programs to further our American heritage. Legion Posts and Auxiliary Units have recognized the unique qualities of the Boys' Club movement and increased support efforts are more apparent each year. The American Legion is interested in Boys' Clubs of America, not only because of a rich history of mutual cooperation, but also because the goals of Boys' Clubs parallel those of the Legion's National Americanism Commission.

## Flag Education

Flag Education is a topic of deep concern to all Americans who express an ever increasing desire to show proper respect for the Flag of the United States of America. Resolution No. 91, adopted at the 53rd National Convention, updated the policy of The American Legion with regard to Public Law 829 (The Flag Code). This resolution is the Legion's recommended revision to Public Law 829. The primary objective is to request the President of the United States to appoint a National Flag Commission for the purpose of necessary study and revision of The Flag Code.

## Education and Scholarships

The Education and Scholarship Program has had a record year with distribution of "Need a Lift?" passing the 140,000 mark. In addition to placing copies of "Need a Lift?" in high schools and libraries throughout the Nation, we have made copies available to 2,500 education officers of the Armed Forces as well as to directors of Operation Transition



President Nixon shakes hands with 1971 American Legion Boys Nation Vice President George C. Freeman, of Baton Rouge, La., as the President hosts the young "Senators" of the Legion's Boys Nation at the White House.

programs worldwide. Distribution of our "Guide for Parents and Students," prepared to help students and parents plan for education beyond high school, passed the six-million figure.

Activities of State Joint Committees, whose membership comprise both Legion and state education administrators, has continued to grow and create greater interest in Legion and education programs in the states where they exist. American Education Week, which will have its 52nd continuous observance, has for its theme "Make Education Top Priority." The dates this year will again include Veterans Day and will be observed Oct. 22-28, 1972. This year over 50 other national groups, with a membership in excess of 25-million, will join as "supporting organizations." Emphasis will be given to "career education" with the goal of involving all citizens, businesses, parents and schools to help individuals become familiar with the values of a work-oriented society.

## COUNTER-SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Dr. J. E. Martie (Nevada), Chairman

The Counter-Subversive Activities Committee has two main responsibilities: the publication of *Firing Line* and answering the many requests for background information on individuals and organizations, particularly the many militant and radical groups which have been formed on campuses and all across the nation in recent years.

The continued publishing of *Firing Line* becomes more vital and important as the years go by since so many publications which were comparable to *Firing Line* have ceased to exist because of increased costs of operation. Now in its twentieth year, it is one of the few that has survived. The staff of *Firing Line* will continue to do all in its power to expose and report to its subscribers the current activities of those whose prime objective is the downfall or overthrow of the capitalistic system of this country.



Randy Haas, American Legion Baseball Player-of-the-Year (left), accepts a special award from Baseball Commissioner Bowie Kuhn at Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium. Others in the group include Bing Crosby, Vice President of the Pirates and John Galbraith, Pirate owner.





Earl D. Franklin, Sr.  
Children & Youth

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

Earl D. Franklin, Jr. (Colorado), Chairman  
Fred T. Kuszmaul (Indiana), Director

### Reach Out—It's Action Time

The above slogan characterizes the efforts of your National Children & Youth Commission this year. In order to "Reach Out," one must apply some effort and at the same time, direct this effort to some useful purpose. This your Commission has tried to do.

It would seem that at no time during recent history have the children and youth of our country been confronted directly or indirectly by so many real or imaginary problems. The vast majority of our young citizens seemingly are able to cope with these problems while a goodly portion does not seem able to cope quite as well.

What are these problems? There are too many to detail in this report. However, your National Children & Youth Commission felt that there were five that warranted the attention of your American Legion. These were: (1) Immunization; (2) Drug Abuse; (3) Education for Handicapped Children; (4) Venereal Disease; and (5) Rehabilitation of Juvenile Offenders.

In the judgment of the Commission, our organization through the efforts of its Post, District and Department Programs could make a valuable contribution toward the development of a solution to these very important and complicated problems of young Americans.

As this report is being written, the annual Post Children & Youth reports have yet to be evaluated so it is impossible at this point to determine what contribution has been made toward the solution of these problems. Many specific activities of interest to the National Children & Youth Commission have happened this year. Two are particularly noteworthy. At the Houston National Convention, "The American Legion Statement of Policy on Drugs and Drug

Abuse" was unanimously approved. This statement was developed through the efforts of the National Foreign Relations Commission, the National Security Commission, the National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission. Nationally, this instrument placed The American Legion in the forefront on this problem. Many of the 38 specific recommendations have been accomplished totally or in part especially those dealing with federal programs and state regulations and/or legislation.

For many years, The American Legion has been quite interested in improving the educational opportunities for handicapped children. There are some 450,000 who could receive the benefits of education or training between the ages of 6 and 15 years who are not presently enrolled in public or private schools. These children are mentally retarded, emotionally disturbed, or some have orthopedic handicaps. It was quite heartening to learn that recent decisions of the federal courts have determined that these unfortunate children have a "constitutional right for education and training." Some states have been ordered to provide for these children.

As usual, a great deal of effort was expended this year on Children & Youth reporting. I am happy to convey that \$12,237,424.00 was expended at the local, District, Department and national levels to support the many worthwhile Children & Youth programs of The American Legion and its affiliated organizations. The total expenditures since the beginning of Children & Youth reporting is \$274,424,638.00.

Of course the dollars expended by no means tell the complete story. More important was the countless number of hours given to this program voluntarily throughout this



*The Honorable Dean C. Davis, Governor of Vermont, signs proclamation declaring Halloween should be a "Safe and Fun Night." Members of the Vermont American Legion and Auxiliary witness the signing of the proclamation supporting a relatively new Legion Children & Youth program to protect children against those who would harm them with dangerous Halloween treats.*



past year. Without the interest and dedication of our vast Children & Youth family, it would be impossible to carry on our program.

Last year 8 Departments of The American Legion and 21 Departments of the American Legion Auxiliary had 100 percent reporting.

One of the highlights of our program year is the Area Conferences on Children & Youth. This year was no exception. Attendance was up nearly 20 percent over 1970-1971; the interest was tremendous and the hospitality outstanding. Our compliments to the Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Washington, Florida and Massachusetts Departments of The American Legion for being such excellent hosts.

Prior to the start of this year's conferences, except in the Western area, a meeting was held with Vietnam veterans. Departments were asked to send a Vietnam representative or representatives to learn about the Children & Youth program. This was done in order to gain their candid opinion on the future direction of this program and the method utilized to further the Commission's objectives. I am happy to report that these meetings were tremendously beneficial.

Nearly all Children & Youth activities are conducted at the local level by Posts, Units of the American Legion Auxiliary and Salons of the Eight and Forty. Hopefully, all these groups appointed a Children & Youth Chairman since working with young people is one of the vital areas of program interest. On behalf of the National Children & Youth Commission, I want to take this opportunity to thank all who helped to further the Children & Youth program this year.



### AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION, INC.

William F. Christoffersen (Utah), President  
Randel Shake (Indiana), Executive Secretary

Since 1954 when the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc., was originally established, \$542,500 has been made available to it. These funds have come from contributions, bequests, and earnings. Most contributions have been in the form of cash but some have been contributions of stocks, bonds, and land.

From this amount, the Board of Directors of the Foundation has made grants totalling \$429,700 of which \$410,800 have actually been used. (For instance, organizations or agencies who have requested grants have completed their projects with some money left over which they returned to the Foundation.)

Officers of the Board of Directors and other members are as follows:

William E. Christoffersen, President  
Walton D. Griffin, Vice President  
Earl D. Franklin, Jr., Secretary  
U. S. Grant, Treasurer  
Robert A. Gish  
L. Eldon James  
Leo V. Lanning  
Kent T. Lundgren

Members of the American Legion Auxiliary Liaison Committee for the current year are:

Mrs. Henry Ahnemiller, Chairman  
Mrs. Louis J. Lemstra, Vice Chairman  
Mrs. Alexander H. Gray, Member

Appointed personnel consist of:

Randel Shake, Executive Secretary  
W. Francis Polen, Assistant Treasurer  
Mrs. Alana Docherty, Office Secretary

At its meeting on March 2, 1972, in Washington, D.C., the Board of Directors approved three grants totalling \$21,200. They included:

1. A grant of \$10,000 to the Woodhaven Learning Center, Columbia, Missouri for the continuance of a research project in bio-engineering. Their research is limited to those who are seriously handicapped and particularly cerebral palsied children who cannot speak or who have other major vocal disabilities. Their research has progressed to the point that by request, it has been demonstrated to the Council of National Organizations, the American Medical Association, and the National Cerebral Palsy Association. In addition, NBC Radio through its member stations throughout the United States has broadcast a 15-minute interview concerning the project.

2. A \$5,000 grant was made to the Berkshire Farm



*Miss Dorothy Dolle, of Louisville, Ky., Le Chapeau Nationale of the Eight and Forty, presents National Commander John H. Geiger with a check for \$2,250 for the continuing work of the Children & Youth Division and an additional \$1,000 for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.*



Institute for Training and Research, Inc. to continue its production and distribution of taped interviews with troubled youth. These public service interviews are currently carried on 300 armed forces radio stations, 61 stations throughout the United States, and one in the Bahamas. The American Legion and its Auxiliary have been instrumental in placing many of these interviews on local radio stations. The tapes have won many national awards, including the Golden Mike Award of the American Legion Auxiliary and they are now being recommended by National Public Radio which is a professional service concerning public service radio features.

3. A third grant of \$6,200 was made to the National Child Labor Committee, Inc., a private organization dealing with child labor as its name implies. The grant is to provide funds for an institute for training supervisors who deal with the education of the children of migrant laborers.

Under the 1969 Tax Reform Act, the Foundation retains its tax exempt status. Gifts are, therefore, deductible for federal income tax purposes to the extent limited by law and bequests to the Foundation are deductible for federal inheritance tax purposes to the extent permitted by the Federal Tax Act.

A popular form of contribution to the Foundation is at the death of a friend or fellow member of The American Legion or its Auxiliary. A memorial card is immediately sent to the next of kin so the bereaved may know of the thoughtfulness of the contributor. In this way, your contribution serves two purposes; first, to memorialize the deceased and, second, to put your gift to positive use in helping the Nation's children.



*One of hundreds of details that require the attention of the National Convention Commission and the National Convention Corporation of the host Department is the route and make-up of the National Convention Parade. Here a military unit prepares to pass in review during a recent National Convention Parade.*



**James V. Demarest**  
**Convention Commission**

## CONVENTION

James V. Demarest (New York), Chairman  
William H. Miller (Oregon), Director

The National Convention Commission continues to receive bids from various cities to host a future National Convention. Since cities are becoming increasingly conscious of the many benefits derived from convention business, facilities to accommodate conventions are springing up all over the country. In years past, there were only a few cities capable of handling an American Legion National Convention; however, this picture has been considerably altered in recent years and has reached the point where many cities are now capable of hosting this important gathering.

During the Commission's Oct., 1971, meetings, representatives of the city of Los Angeles, Cal. appeared for the purpose of withdrawing their invitation to host the 1973 Convention, a tentative award of which had been given during the October, 1968 meetings. This withdrawal was precipitated by a delay in new hotel construction in the city of Los Angeles, and it was the feeling of those who would be faced with the responsibility of staging the Convention that they would be in a better position to take on the task at a subsequent time.

To fill the void created by the withdrawal of Los Angeles, the Commission recommended that a tentative award of the 1973 Convention be given to the city of Honolulu, Hawaii, the dates to be August 17-23. Representatives of the American Legion Department of Hawaii appeared before the Commission and presented evidence of sufficient housing and facilities to satisfactorily handle the convention. During the May, 1972, meetings of the Commission, the tentative award previously made in behalf of Honolulu was made a firm commitment, and the Commission recommended that the National Organization and the American Legion National Convention Corporation of Hawaii enter into the usual and customary contractual agreement.

The 1971 National Convention, which was held in Houston, Texas, was well received by those in attendance and



proved to be a financial success for the Houston Convention Corporation.

As this report is being written, plans are progressing in fine order for the 1972 Convention, which is to be held in the city of Chicago during the period August 18-24.

Our present National Convention schedule is as follows:

- 1972 Chicago, Illinois — August 18-24
- 1973 Honolulu, Hawaii — August 17-23
- 1974 Miami Beach, Florida — August 16-22
- 1975 Philadelphia, Pa. — August 15-21

It is anticipated that additional convention awards will be made during the Commission's Oct., 1972, meetings in Indianapolis.



**Donald J. Smith**  
**Internal Affairs Commission**

## **INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

**Donald J. Smith (Michigan), Chairman**  
**C. W. (Pat) Geile (Indiana), Director**

The special province of the Internal Affairs Commission is, of course, the internal organization and structure of The American Legion. In addition, all matters requiring the official attention of the National Organization which do not properly fall within the responsibility areas assigned to other national commissions or committees are also referred to the Internal Affairs Commission for study and disposition.

To assist the commission, five committees are assigned to it for supervision and coordination: Constitution and By-Laws; Membership and Post Activities; Resolutions Assignment; Sons of The American Legion; and Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials.

The last eight to ten years have been a time of innovation and change, as The American Legion has mirrored the shifting vicissitudes of society at large. The separate report of the Membership and Post Activities committee, which appears elsewhere in this publication, describes some of the major innovations of the past year in the membership field; a pilot program of direct billing of membership dues in the summer

of 1972; an experimental mailing of dues letters to presumed delinquent members during March and April; the National Commander's drive to charter new posts through the participation of members of the National Executive Committee; great emphasis on the positive values of Legion membership.

## **Polution Control**

Since 1970, the Internal Affairs Commission has been responsible for the development of policies and programs in the broad field of ecology. Basic policies were adopted in the spring of 1971 including: (1) Adequate funds, public and private, for research purposes; (2) information programs to inform posts and post support of local measures, particularly with regard to sewage disposal; (3) cooperation with other like-minded groups; (4) commendation of the President for establishing the Environmental Protection Agency; (5) support of federal anti-pollution standards; (6) a request that American Legion Departments designate a committee to assume responsibility in this field.

At the October 1971 meeting of the National Executive Committee, official concern was expressed for the quality of underground water supplies. Copies of American Legion policy statements, as established by national resolutions, have been transmitted to appropriate committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Through the cooperation of the National Americanism Commission, American Legion Posts, particularly those sponsoring Scout units, were urged to participate in the Scout SOAR (Save Our American Resources) project. Informational articles on various aspects of ecology have appeared in *The American Legion Magazine*, the *Advance*, etc.

## **Sons of The American Legion**

After some two years of study, discussion, writing and re-writing, a completely new National Constitution and By-Laws for the Sons of The American Legion won final approval from the National Executive Committee in May 1972. The new constitution for the first time establishes national officers for this subsidiary organization and sets up the framework for a functioning national SAL organization. As a result, after nine years of holding National SAL Workshops and, later, Caucuses, the SAL will stage its first National Convention in Chicago Ill., on Aug. 19 and 20, just prior to the opening of The American Legion's 54th National Convention.

## **Poppy Funds**

At the request of the 1971 National Convention of the American Legion Auxiliary, the Internal Affairs Commission initiated action to amend national rules for the use of funds derived from the sale of Poppies each year. Under the revised rules Poppy money may be used to assist in the rehabilitation of any veteran honorably discharged from military service since April 6, 1917, or to aid the families and dependents of such veterans. Previously Poppy funds had been restricted to veterans who had served during one of the four periods of hostilities which establish Legion membership eligibility, or their families.



## Awards

The American Legion's very considerable program of awards and citations is coordinated by the Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee. Included are recommendations for the Distinguished Service Medal, International Amity Awards, and Canadian Friendship Awards, as well as rules and procedures for all other national awards. A major new certificate has been authorized upon the recommendation of the Membership and Post Activities Committee—a "Golden Certificate" award to be issued to all American Legionnaires credited with 50 or more years of continuous membership.

## Future Questions

It may be anticipated that the Constitution and By-Laws Committee will continue to be called upon to review many recommendations for changing American Legion eligibility requirements. Changes in tax laws and regulations have created problems for posts, departments and the National Organization which must be met. Even though a proposed plan for a national paid-up membership program did not win approval in 1972, it appears likely that recommendations will continue to be received for such a plan. There are frequent suggestions to revise and modernize the Manual of Ceremonies. Thus, in spite of all that has been accomplished in the way of innovation, the rate of change is not apt to lessen in the years immediately ahead.

## Posts Chartered 6/1/71 to 6/1/72

Number of Posts 6/1/71 .....	16,113
Canceled 6/1/71 to 6/1/72 .....	136
Chartered same period .....	106
Number of Posts 6/1/72 .....	16,083

## MEMBERSHIP AND POST ACTIVITIES

William F. Gormley (Pennsylvania), Chairman  
J. Lloyd Wignall (Utah), Director

## MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

Total official membership, 1970 .....	2,692,127
Total official membership, 1971 .....	2,711,561
1971 membership, as of July 1, 1971 .....	2,665,709
1972 membership, as of July 1, 1972 .....	2,684,025

This has been a year when the natural guidelines for judging membership performance simply didn't work. They never do during a dues raise year. We were aware of certain dangers. We have tried to meet them and, with the Commander's help, we are confident that we have succeeded.

Our emphasis during the entire year has been on the positive value of Legion membership. We discourage "save 50¢" campaigns. We attempted to develop the concept that our dues raise was nothing more than the actual increase in the cost of doing business. We believe we had some success and we have appreciated the cooperation that we have received from the National Executive Committee in putting across this idea. All reports are not in, but as of May 30, membership at National Headquarters totaled 2,636,528, an increase of 10,137, over the corresponding date of one year ago.

Commander Geiger has helped in special ways. We hope that his innovative rap sessions with District Commanders becomes a regular fixture. This is a splendid way of communicating directly with our District Commanders and, through them, with our posts. We know it has made subsequent letters to these individuals more effective, and we have picked up several excellent ideas.

## Anti-Delinquency Drive

Thirty-two of our departments cooperated in what we chose to call the ADD Program. This Anti-Delinquency Drive was a rush program. We would be the first to admit that improvements could be made in the lists which we furnished to departments and if it is used again these improvements will be incorporated. Actually, the program consisted of National Headquarters providing mailing strips of all Legionnaires shown as delinquent on National records as of March 1. These mailing strips were sent to the 32 participating departments and, in most cases, a letter was mailed. Departments were advised where they could expect errors. But the important thing is that we received thank you notes from Legionnaires who were happy to be reminded that their dues were overdue. Departments also found the mailing effective in getting collected dues mailed. Although it is still too early for us to fully assess what this type of mailing can produce, we are getting some very positive reports.

Yes, the 1972 membership year will be a first if, as we confidently expect, we end with a membership gain. In the past, the year following a dues raise has been just as disastrous. Every active Legionnaire does face a challenge — a challenge of laying the groundwork for 1973.

We know all of us would like to forget the January 15, 1972, dues raise, but we've got to face up to the fact that beginning in August and September 1972, the big impact will be felt by our Legionnaires. Last year most posts absorbed the dues raise for those members who had not paid by January 15. This year post dues will reflect the national dues raise, a possible department increase, and an almost certain jump in post dues. We expect that the average Legionnaire will be spending about \$2.00 more for his dues this coming year. It's up to us to provide an American Legion that's worth whatever amount is being charged and to get the word out so that every Legionnaire knows the value of his membership.

## Program for 1973

*"Reach Out—In Service For America"*  
*"Let's Put It All Together"*

"Reach Out" as a basic theme has served The American

Legion well. Posts are becoming more active in their communities. District Commanders are working toward greater involvement by posts and Legionnaires. Rap sessions with post officers are becoming an accepted part of a District Commander's responsibilities. There are more cooperative projects with other organizations. The "Outreach" program of the American Association of Junior Colleges and The American Legion is a good example. Service programs are being expanded and personal contacts are being made. The post service officer is once again assuming his rightful role and veterans are coming to him. Information centers are being established where new veterans can get counseling and where all veterans can get job help. Posts and college vets clubs have their own local programs of mutual assistance. The older Legionnaire is finding that there really isn't a generation gap; there is only a communications gap.

This is the direction that The American Legion is taking but the efforts of every responsible Legionnaire must be continued. So, once again, "Reach Out" will be retained. "In Service For America" broadens our concept while still giving directions.

We are building a better product but that doesn't mean that increased membership will be automatic. There are many worthwhile organizations. In a friendly way The American Legion is competing for the talents and the time of the available manpower, particularly those who, through service to country, are eligible for The American Legion. To be successful, we need salesmen - salesmen who are informed - salesmen who know that The American Legion is a valuable asset.

That leads us to the second part of our overall 1973 theme, "Let's Put It All Together." Several years ago widespread use was made of the formula, "Good programs plus active Legionnaires equals membership growth." "Let's Put It All Together" is a simpler and, hopefully, more effective way of saying the same thing.

### New Posts

As of May 31, thirty-five departments had successfully responded to the National Commander's challenge by having organized at least one new post. From September 1, 1971, to May 31, 1972, charters for 81 posts had been submitted. We hope that the increased emphasis started by Commander Geiger can be continued into 1973.

By departments, this breaks down as follows:

Alabama .....	2
Alaska .....	3
Arizona .....	5
Arkansas .....	2
California .....	3
Florida .....	1
Georgia .....	4
Illinois .....	1
Indiana .....	1
Kansas .....	2
Kentucky .....	3

Louisiana .....	1
Massachusetts .....	1
Michigan .....	4
Minnesota .....	1
Mississippi .....	2
Missouri .....	2
Nebraska .....	1
New Jersey .....	3
New Mexico .....	1
New York .....	1
North Carolina .....	2
Ohio .....	1
Oregon .....	1
Pennsylvania .....	3
South Carolina .....	1
South Dakota .....	2
Texas .....	3
Vermont .....	1
Virginia .....	1
France .....	3
Mexico .....	1
Panama C.Z. ....	1
Philippines .....	13
Puerto Rico .....	4

### Direct Billing

We are looking forward with a great deal of interest to a brand new experience in Legion membership - the sending of a dues notice from National Headquarters. Thirteen departments are being used in this experiment. This covers slightly more than 600,000 Legionnaires. The positive response we received from delinquent member mailings leads us to be quite confident that we will be able to report to you in May, 1973, that a uniform mailing of dues notice to all posts within a department is a profitable way of kicking off a membership year. In those departments using direct billing, we expect an early membership gain to develop but the true effectiveness will probably not be apparent until May or June of 1973.



*Officers of the National Association of Collegiate Veterans, Inc., visit the administrative offices during a visit to Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis. Seated (left to right) are: Commander Geiger, James S. Whitfield, executive director of the Indianapolis Headquarters and William F. Gormley, National Membership Chairman. Standing with the young veteran guests is National Membership Director Lloyd Wignall (third from right).*



### Continuous Membership Forms

Your committee has noted with some concern the difficulty encountered by some of our longtime Legionnaires in proving continuous membership. National had never kept this type of record until our membership lists were computerized. Most departments have also found that this was a task beyond their ability, and, of course, we realize that post records can be good or bad.

We are preparing a form which can be accepted by departments. The choice is theirs. We think that this will provide a more uniform method of assisting our Legionnaires in establishing a membership record that can now be continued through the computer.

### Legion Programs

The Membership and Post Activities Committee and its staff have continued to be very much concerned with the young man coming out of service, in particular, and our younger veterans, in general. In no way was this intended to place greater importance on this group of veterans than on any other war group or age group. We simply feel that now is the time that the emphasis must be placed with this group while their problems are so acute.

The number of Job Fairs will probably not be as great this year, although at least 15 have been held recently.

We are developing more of the information type centers - sometimes alone and sometimes in cooperation with other groups.

We have had some success working with other groups who are eligible to receive funds under the Emergency Employment Act and we see this as a growing opportunity to provide full time and part time work.

Our programs with the American Association of Junior Colleges and with the Association of American Universities and Colleges have developed into a tremendous national effort toward getting our younger veterans back into training or school. We have now passed the 300 mark of Junior Colleges that are participating with The American Legion and over 1,000 four year schools. Naturally, we are coordinating these efforts with other divisions where there is an overlapping of areas of interest.

We still feel that it is important that we continue to improve our product and that we help provide our Legion membership teams with a local post that has something to sell.

### NATIONAL CONTESTS SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

Deming Smith (South Dakota), Chairman  
Robert C. Moy (Indiana), Coordinator

### Houston, Texas, Contests

The 1971 Parade of Champions was held in the famous Astrodome at Houston, Texas. Approximately ten thousand

fans were in attendance for the Drum & Bugle Corps spectacular. The preliminaries were held at the University of Houston, where free admission was granted, as usual, to anyone desiring to see them.

The winners of the 1971 National competitions were as follows:

Senior Drum & Bugle Corps—YANKEE REBELS, Post 20, Baltimore, Maryland

Junior Drum & Bugle Corps—ARGONNE REBELS, Post 180, Great Bend, Kansas

Senior Color Guard—JERSEY CHEVRONS, Post 40, Ridgefield Park, New Jersey

Junior Color Guard—WHITE TORNADOES ALL-GIRL, Post 40, Momence, Illinois

Firing Squad—LITTLE BILLS, Post 118, Chicago, Illinois  
Senior Band—JOLIET LEGION BAND—Post 1284, Joliet, Illinois

Junior Band—LOS ANGELES POLICE, Post 381, Los Angeles, California

Chorus—SINGING LEGIONNAIRES, Post 15, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Quartet—SIOUX FALLS LEGION, Post 15, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Motorcycle—INDIANAPOLIS POLICE, Post 56, Indianapolis, Indiana

ALMENAH SHRINE MOTOR CORPS, Post 5, Nashville, Tennessee

The Uniformed Groups activity is one of the largest youth programs in The American Legion (with over 40,000 participants across the United States), and promises to be even greater in the future with more consideration given to community high school bands, choruses, color guards and ROTC drill teams.

### 1971 Uniformed Groups Congress

The biennial Uniformed Groups Congress, which is held in Indianapolis, Indiana, was the largest on record. Over six hundred persons attended the conclave to voice and vote their opinions on the rules changes of the various contest categories for the years 1972-73.

Four new contest categories were added, making a total of fourteen contests sponsored by The American Legion.

### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

James S. Whitfield (Missouri), Executive Director  
Hollis C. Hull (Oklahoma), Asst. Executive Director

The Executive Director, whose office is located in the National Headquarters in Indianapolis, has three major responsibilities.

(1) He performs such duties as may be assigned to him by the National Adjutant to assist in meeting the myriad responsibilities of that office and, during temporary absences of the National Adjutant from the Headquarters, acts for him.

(2) He heads the Administrative Services Division and

through it supervises and coordinates the many administrative functions of the Indianapolis Headquarters.

(3) He functions as the Director of Personnel, recruiting necessary staff, maintaining personnel records, and serving on the Personnel Committee of the Headquarters.

Included in the Administrative Services Division of the Indianapolis Headquarters are the following administrative functions: Cashier; Mail; Printing; Purchasing and General Supply ... stock, receiving, shipping ...; Library, Archives, E. A. Blackmore Museum; Stenographic Pool and Reproduction Unit; Building Maintenance; Cafeteria; Personnel Records and Recruiting; Finance Section and Insurance Section.

The Administrative Services Division also provides all secretarial assistance to the executive officers of The American Legion.

The following statistical tables are indicative of the volume of work routinely performed by this Division:

## MAIL

6/1/71 to 5/31/72

Incoming Letters (Distributed to various Divisions for processing) .....	2,760,043
Incoming Parcels .....	2,597
Outgoing Letters (Tub Mail used for Departments) .....	299,690
Outgoing Parcels (Exclusive of National Emblem Sales).....	42,426

## DUPLICATING

6/1/71 to 5/31/72

Pages Mimeographed.....	983,135
Pages Multigraphed & Multilithed .....	5,349,435
Envelopes & Labels Addressed .....	317,220
Letters Transcribed.....	1,635
MC/ST.....	14,611
Addressograph Plates Cut .....	5,120
Telegrams (In 274) (Out 356).....	630
Xerox Copies.....	490,021

## SUPPLIES

6/1/71 to 5/31/72

Paper Cut and Processed  
693 Reams or 13,861 lbs. (6.93 tons)

## FREIGHT AND EXPRESS

6/1/71 to 5/31/72

In .....	237 Cartons (8,316 lbs.)
Out.....	2,162 Cartons (87,006 lbs.)
U. P. S. (Out).....	2,783 Parcels

## LIBRARY & EMIL A. BLACKMORE MUSEUM

6/1/71 to 5/31/72

Materials added to Library.....	250,577
Informational requests answered by staff .....	8,692
Items added to Emil A. Blackmore Museum.....	60

## COMPUTER CENTER

The Computer Center is currently responsible for the following projects:

Maintenance of The American Legion Magazine and SAL mailing lists, membership status and labels.

Preparation of Direct Billing Notices and Registers (pilot program only in 1972).

The production of membership cards and registers, department accounting reports and statistical information.

The printing of all state paper labels upon request.

The maintenance of inventory controls, purchasing controls and billing applications for The American Legion Emblem Division.

Production of all General Ledger accounting information.

All payroll reports and affiliated tax reports.

Maintenance of the mailing list and automated grading for the Extension Institute.

Production of all audit control and circulation analysis reports required by the Audit Bureau of Circulation for The American Legion Magazine.

Production of Inventory Control and Purchase Order Control for National Headquarters.



*American Legion Magazine Editor Robert B. Pitkin and Art Editor Al Marshall check layout for a Legion Magazine article for any final changes in art or copy prior to submitting to the printer.*





**James E. Powers**

**The American Legion Magazine Commission**

### THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE COMMISSION

James E. Powers (Georgia), Chairman  
James F. O'Neil (New Hampshire), Publisher  
The American Legion Magazine

The American Legion Magazine faces the future with guarded optimism, primarily because of the action taken at the National Convention in Houston, Texas, last August in providing more funds for the National Organization and its magazine to cope with rising cost factors.

The cautionary references are prompted because costs continue to mount in relation to the production and distribution of the magazine and our advertising revenues for 1972 will not match those of 1971, when the return almost reached an all-time high. Business forecasts for the balance of this year are on the good side, and we are hopeful that this trend will continue into 1973 with some "spill-over" benefits to The American Legion Magazine.

One of the hinges upon which we all depend is membership. It is the life blood of the magazine's circulation guarantee and vital in our approach to potential advertisers. Given the necessary tools, members and money, we believe that we can continue to produce a quality publication of great credit.

With the death of "Look," The American Legion Magazine ranked 16th in circulation among the 99 "leading U.S. magazines" listed in the 1972 World Almanac.

In format, it is a "general interest consumer magazine." Its leading articles usually deal with subjects that are not only of interest to the Legion, but to all Americans in line with an instruction received from the 1922 National Convention. For some two decades, material of a more "fraternal" nature has appeared in a special section of Legion and veterans news. This broad plan of separating general from fraternal content has been highly successful in creating an organization publication which ranks, in content as well as circulation, with the leading consumer magazines in the nation. According to independent surveys, the "depth of readership" (or the amount of each issue that is actually read

by the average reader) is not exceeded by any other American magazine. Major articles are widely reprinted by other publications, from the Reader's Digest to local newspapers. It is a cliché among Legionnaires that their magazine is a prized monthly visitor in their homes, and is an attractive reason for being a Legionnaire. It is also widely used by schools and students.

While its material does not avoid humor, comment or opinion, it treats facts in balance with a respect which readers appreciate. The series of American history articles which the magazine started publishing regularly nine years ago is a source of daily favorable mail from readers of all ages.

Increased postal rates and the Internal Revenue Act of 1969 establishing our magazine advertising income as "unrelated business" to the non-profit status of The American Legion have intensified the problems for the magazine. Currently our second-class postage is running in excess of \$26,000 a month, and it is due to reach \$30,000 per month within the calendar year. More increases are to follow in this decade. Five years ago the monthly mailing cost was approximately \$12,000.

Printing expenditures are advancing and the general payroll is up. The magazine has been printed and distributed by the Fawcett Printing Corporation, of Louisville, its predecessors, the C. T. Dearing Company and Fawcett Haynes, since 1948. The current contract expires in 1973. Sealed bids from interested printers will be opened and considered at the pre-Convention sessions of The American Legion Magazine Commission in Chicago.

The conversion from Honeywell to the NCR computerized system in the Data Processing Center, which serves The American Legion Magazine with mailing strips, is being carried out on a relatively satisfactory basis. Problems of translation arose that forced revision of target dates. Hopefully, the modifications for better timing improvements will be completed during 1972.



*David Lawrence of U.S. News & World Report, is greeted by Commander Geiger during the Commander's reception for the working press of the nation's capital.*





**C. D. DeLoach**  
**Public Relations**

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**C. D. DeLoach (District of Columbia), Chairman**  
**James C. Watkins (District of Columbia) Director**

The Houston National Convention served as the launching site for a series of six American Legion advertisements scheduled for Editor and Publisher Magazine, featuring programs and projects of the Legion and inviting news executives to check with their local area American Legion posts to determine what was being done in their own circulation areas with regard to the programs featured in the series.

Washington office Public Relations personnel received a sizeable number of press inquiries as a result of the ad series and, with the help of local posts and departments, were able to make proper referrals resulting in many good American Legion news stories.

In view of sizeable numbers of requests from posts and



*Lowell Thomas, veteran newsman, receives the 1972 National Commander's Public Relations Award from Commander Geiger during Public Relations luncheon at 1972 Washington Conference. National PR Commission Chairman C.D. "Deke" DeLoach (right) assisted with the presentation.*

departments for reprints of the ad series to be used in cooperative newspaper advertising programs at the local level, we had the series re-written to fit that type of usage and have filled many requests for the material during the year.

The National Commander, as the chief executive and principal spokesman of The American Legion, was brought to the forefront early after our 1971 Houston National Convention through a set of special instructions provided to Department Commanders, Adjutants and National Executive Committeemen, containing helpful suggestions as to how to get the most out of department visits by the National Commander.

The effectiveness of this project may be measured in the volume of news clippings received by public relations through our clipping service and indicating excellent coverage of the National Commander's departmental visits throughout the year.

Soon after his election, Commander Geiger was scheduled on the Phil Donahue Show, an hour long, live, audience participation show originating in Dayton, Ohio, and shown on syndicated basis on 44 TV stations from coast to coast. Much favorable response was received on the program which was seen in most of the syndicate viewing areas including New York, Washington, D.C., and Indianapolis.

Veterans Day, 1971, saw the Legion responsible for a regional observance in New York State and there the National Commander used the platform to begin one phase of the project to call the attention of concerned Americans to the plight of the nation's defense system as made public in a supplemental report by the Blue Ribbon Defense Panel. The Commander spoke of the need to restore honorable service in the armed forces of the United States to its proper place of honor and dignity in the scheme of things. From that point on, and coming to full crescendo with the traditional Biltmore Bowl speech in early January, the status of the nation's defenses has



*National Commander Geiger conducts his first formal news conference at Indianapolis National Headquarters a few days after his election in Houston.*



been a dominant theme in the message of the Legion Commander.

The 1972 Washington Conference was one of the best newsmakers for The American Legion in many years, including the conference which saw the presentation of the Gift to the Nation during our 50th anniversary observance.

The Commander's testimony before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on the subject of amnesty for draft dodgers and deserters was covered by all area media and made national news on all major radio and TV networks, in addition to being covered well by all news outlets in the nation's capital.

Presentation of the National Commander's Public Relations Award for 1972 to veteran newsman Lowell Thomas also was a good news story for the Legion as was the presentation of The American Legion Award for Distinguished Public Service which went to Congressman Leslie Arends, 17th District of Illinois, during the Commander's banquet honoring the Congress of the United States.

At that time our advertisement to the overseas editions of the Army, Navy and Air Force Times was released. Headlined "You Won't Get a Hero's Welcome," the ad described basic services The American Legion has to offer the new veteran and contained a coupon for those men about to be discharged to fill in and return to the Washington offices if they wished additional information about the Legion or would like to have a local Legion representative contact them on their return home.

This ad also was well received, and coupons returned to the Washington offices were acknowledged and forwarded to the headquarters of the department where the young veteran indicated he would make his home, for additional followup by the department.

Our usage of television spots was increased somewhat this year with five TV slides and a series of suggested spot announcements with each, for Veterans Day, two (2) for promotion of the Jobs for Veterans project, one for Memorial Day and one for Independence Day, 1972. Our television mailing list was expanded, from a select mailing list of about 300 stations, to include all of the more than 900 TV stations across the country.

As in other years, Public Relations assigned a staff man to provide on the spot coverage to the national finals of Oratorical contest in Weirton, W. Va., and to the World Series of American Legion baseball in Tucson, Arizona.

In the spring of the year, April and May, a number of statements were issued by the President with regard to escalation of hostilities in South Vietnam and the Legion was ready with appropriate statements from the National Commander to make known the Legion's position with regard to those announcements.

From late spring, through the summer, most of the effort of PR personnel was being channelled into preparation for the 1972 National Convention set for Chicago, August 18-24.



**Clarence S. Campbell**  
**Economic Commission**

### **ECONOMIC COMMISSION**

**Clarence S. Campbell (Vermont), Chairman**  
**Austin E. Kerby (Maryland), Director**

The National Economic Commission is charged with the responsibility of assisting veterans in the various problems relating to their economic well-being and the readjustment of all war veterans returning to civilian life after a period of active service in the armed forces of the United States. Currently, we are assisted in meeting our obligations to the veterans' quest for economic help through two Committees—Employment and Veterans' Preference—which are assigned to the parent Commission for supervision and coordination of efforts and activities.

Vietnam era veterans have various readjustment problems upon their return to the mainstream of civilian life. However, we have experienced that one of the foremost difficulties encountered by these young veterans is the need for meaningful employment and job training opportunities. In cooperation with other program divisions of the National Organization and the several Departments of The American Legion, our "Jobs for Veterans" Program launched during



*Committee for Legion sponsored Job Fair represents cooperative effort between The American Legion, State Employment services, and other branches of government and private business and industry essential to a successful Fair.*



1971, continues on a nationwide basis. As a result of all efforts, marked success has been attained in the widening of jobs and job training opportunities for all veterans, especially the young Viet-time veteran.

By way of general background, no effort could come closer to The American Legion's reason for being than our "Jobs for Veterans" Program, which pre-dates the government's program carrying the same name. You might say history has come full cycle for the Legion. One of the important problems facing the founders at the organization of The American Legion in Paris in 1919 was how the returning veteran could find his place upon returning to civilian life.

Newly elected National Commander John H. Geiger, in his acceptance speech, pledged his full support, saying: "I propose to continue the Jobs for Veterans Program, initiated more than a year ago by The American Legion. This is a vital 1972 Action Program, and it demands our full attention because it concerns the total well-being of our Viet-time veterans." National Commander Geiger serves as a member of the Federal Government's National Advisory Committee, Jobs for Veterans.

With respect to The American Legion's total "Jobs for Veterans" efforts, Donald E. Johnson, Administrator of the Veterans Administration, recently said: "No organization has given this vital program stronger or more effective support than The American Legion."

In our continued effort to improve employment opportunities for all war veterans, including the Handicapped and the Older Worker of World War II and the Korean Conflict who are encountering employment difficulties due to age and outmoded skills, "National Employ the Handicapped Week" was observed Oct. 3-9, 1971; "National Employ the Older Worker Week," May 7-13, 1972 for the fourteenth consecutive year; and, for the third year, the Economic Commission selected two outstanding employers of veterans to be presented the Legion's "National Employer of the Year Award for Hiring Veterans." The latter program has assisted immeasurably in our total "Jobs for Veterans" efforts.



*This scene at Fraser Memorial Armory in Fargo, N.D., was typical of the Job Fairs sponsored by The American Legion across the country to help the young veteran find meaningful employment.*

As far as Federal veterans preference is concerned, it has remained essentially unchanged. Nevertheless, there are continuous administrative and legislative attempts to eliminate, weaken or circumvent the Veterans Preference Act, as now codified under title 5, U. S. Code. There have been rumors from various parts of the nation that the recently created Postal Service will not strictly comply with all provisions of the veterans preference laws, as does the competitive civil service. We are pleased to announce that the Postal Service assures the national staff that veterans preference will be applied to the letter.

Because of inconsistencies in the unemployment compensation law for Vietnam veterans (UCX), we are supporting legislation to provide for a system of payment in which the minimum amount, duration of payment, eligibility requirement, and disqualification provisions shall be determined on a uniform basis, irrespective of state unemployment compensation laws; and that Federal funds for the UCX program be provided through a permanent, indefinite, open end appropriation.

Traditionally, and in agreement with current mandates, The American Legion, through its Economic Commission, continues active, cooperative support of the Veterans Employment Service and the State Employment Security Agencies, the Office of Veterans Reemployment Rights, the United States Savings Bonds Program, The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, the Farmers Home Administration, and various other programs and activities which are too numerous to mention but which have a direct or indirect relationship to the economic well-being of all veterans.

All administrative and legislative activities pertaining to the economic welfare of veterans are essential and necessary, although the staff's direct service to the individual veteran, his dependents and his survivors continues to be a most important responsibility and function of the Economic Commission.

## THE AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMMITTEE

Albert V. LaBiche (Louisiana), Chairman  
Paul L. Weber (Nebraska), Director

On April 1, 1972, The American Legion Life Insurance Plan marked its fourteenth anniversary and is now in its 15th year. The plan was officially adopted by the National Executive Committee in Washington, D. C., on Feb. 22, 1958. In those fourteen years, it has achieved many important goals. The Insurance Department is staffed by a National Headquarters employee who serves as Director to the Insurance Office, which is administered by the Youngberg-Carlson Co., in Chicago, Ill. The Insurance Committee is assigned for jurisdictional purposes to the



National Finance Commission and reports through that Commission to the National Executive Committee.

Your Insurance Committee has met two times since the last report and is able to report again that the Plan has continued to grow and make improvements. The 15% "across the board" increase in benefits, effective Jan. 1, 1966, was discontinued for the year 1972.

An item of major importance was the approval of a resolution by the National Executive Committee to raise the limits of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan to four full units. Legionnaires under age 30, who were eligible for \$10,000 protection before, can now apply for up to \$40,000 in Legion Life Benefits. Of course, the most important news is that the cost per unit is still only \$24 a year. This is another benefit of membership in The American Legion for the young veteran. It's an excellent selling point for new members and also serves as a means of retaining members. Inform the members of your Post of this big new development.

An additional item of importance was the approval of a resolution by the National Executive Committee increasing the awards of the National Oratorical Contest as follows: 1st place, \$8,000; 2nd place, \$5,000; 3rd place, \$3,000, and 4th place, \$2,000. In addition each Department winner who attends the Regional contest receives a \$500 scholarship award. The Department Oratorical chairman now attends a two-day conference in Indianapolis each October. All this amounts to \$55,000 each year, and is all financed by The American Legion Life Insurance Trust Fund.

Remember, your American Legion Life Insurance Plan always pays in addition to any other life insurance benefits; it is not meant to replace any existing coverage you have. It simply gives you thousands of dollars extra protection at incredibly low cost. That's why there is no finer way to protect and remember those you love . . . whether it's your family, a charity, a foundation or even your Legion Post.

In fourteen years, 8, 975 claims were paid, amounting to \$12,342,278 in benefits. During 1971 alone, an average of \$162,993 was paid each month. These benefits were paid at no cost to the National Organization of The American Legion and at no expense to the membership.

Premiums and/or contributions for 1971 paid for life insurance protection amounted to \$2,991,059. After the close of each calendar year and after all claims and administration expenses have been paid in the Group States, the unused premiums are placed in The American Legion Life Insurance Trust. There is over one million dollars in the trust fund.

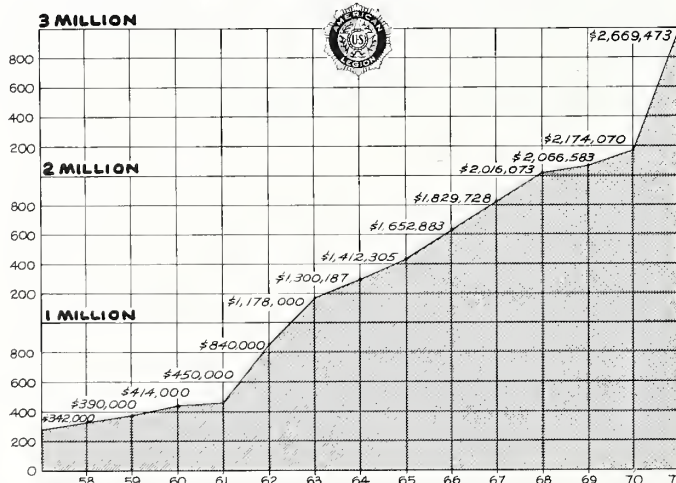
The American Legion Life Insurance Plan is underwritten by two large and reputable companies, Occidental Life Insurance Company of California and the United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York. Occidental is the ninth largest underwriter of group life insurance in the United States. For members who are permanent residents of New York and Puerto Rico, the insurance is underwritten by one of the largest companies in North America, the United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York. Permanent residents of North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Wisconsin, Illinois, and New Jersey are covered separately by the Occidental Life Insurance Company, which provides similar benefits at the same rate.

The American Legion Life Insurance is the only official insurance plan in all states for Legionnaires. Two and one-half million applications were mailed Legionnaires in Feb. and by Oct. 1, 1972 approximately \$51,000 will be spent in advertising in *The American Legion Magazine*.

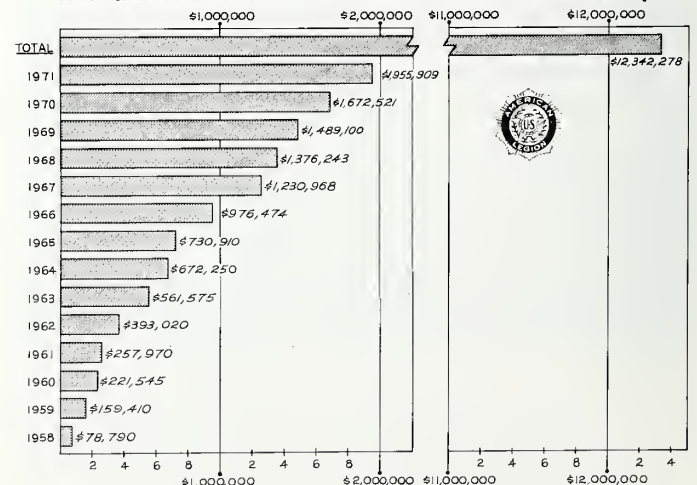
Continually since 1958, between four and five per cent of the insurance members fail to renew insurance each year. As a result, each year on or about Oct. 15, thousands of Legionnaires are requested to report next year's membership card numbers and make insurance remittances before Jan. 1 of the next year. This provides early membership renewals. As the plan grows, so will these many advantages magnify themselves throughout The American Legion

At the recent meetings held in Indianapolis, Ind. May 1, through May 4, 1972 The American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Committee approved a resolution urging and requesting Departments to *refrain from sponsoring Life Insurance Programs* other than The American Legion Life

AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUM GROWTH 1958 - 1971



AMERICAN LEGION LIFE INSURANCE PAID CLAIMS 1958-MARCH 31, 1972



Insurance Program. This resolution was also approved by the National Finance Commission and the National Executive Committee.

For further information, Posts are urged to contact The American Legion Life Insurance Plan, 111 West Jackson Blvd., 13th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60604. Attention: Paul L. Weber, Director.



**W. F. Lenker**

**Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission**

### **VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION COMMISSION**

**W. F. Lenker (South Dakota), Chairman**  
**E. H. Golembieski (Pennsylvania), Director**

During the past year there has been considerable activity in the field of veterans affairs. A number of Public Laws were enacted during the closing days of the First Session, 92nd Congress. In accordance with approved mandates a staff representative of the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission presented the views of The American Legion in support of these legislative proposals. We are encouraged by the results. As of the writing of this report, four measures have been enacted into law that liberalize the veterans benefits program. These are:

PL 92-188, approved Dec. 15, 1971, providing that dividends may be used to purchase additional paid up National Service Life Insurance.

PL 92-193, approved Dec. 15, 1971, permitting the conversion or exchange of National Service Life Insurance policies to insurance on a modified life plan with reduction to age seventy.

PL 92-197, approved Dec. 15, 1971, liberalizing the provisions relating to payment of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

PL 92-198, approved Dec. 15, 1971, liberalizing the provisions relating to payment of disability and death pension.

There has also been renewed activity in the 92nd Congress in the field of veterans affairs since the beginning of the 2nd Session. National Commander John H. Geiger appeared before the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on Feb. 29, 1972, at which time he made known one of The American Legion's principal concerns when he stated, "The present unparalleled medical care program administered by the Veterans Administration has been developed through a period of fifty years until it reached its present position of proficiency and effectiveness. The American Legion does not intend to see it disappear, either as a result of being dismantled or by being absorbed into some other comprehensive medical care plan that the Congress may see fit to adopt."

An American Legion staff representative presented testimony to the Subcommittee on Readjustment, Education and Employment, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, on Mar. 24, 1972, at which time he pointed out the undue hardships many veterans are encountering in furthering their education, and presented the organization's views on legislation to improve the educational assistance program for veterans.

At an appearance before the Subcommittee on Compensation and Pensions, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, on Mar. 29, 1972, he also made known The American Legion's concern about the need for compensation increases and other improvements in benefits and criteria for the war-disabled veteran looking to his economic improvement and that of his dependent.

On Mar. 29, 1972, another American Legion representative appeared before the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and placed on record The American Legion's position on the subject of national cemeteries.

While efforts have been extended to improve all aspects of the veterans affairs program, recent developments have focused attention on the Veterans Administration medical and hospital care program, and the potential impact on this program of a national health insurance plan. Legionnaires should be alerted to the fact that national health insurance legislation pending in Congress could pose a threat to the



*National Commander Geiger and Mrs. Bertha Parker, National President of the American Legion Auxiliary, greet young hospitalized veterans from Washington, D.C., area military hospitals who were special guests at the National Commander's banquet for the Congress.*



VA medical care program. This possibility is of immediate concern to The American Legion. The Commission is closely monitoring the progress of national health legislation, and will take whatever action appears necessary to protect the interests of veterans in this vital area.

In this connection, by Resolution No. 113 of the 1971 National Convention at Houston, Texas, the National Commander was authorized to appoint a Special Committee to not only examine the adequacy of the Veterans Administration medical care program, but also to develop strong arguments in support of the VA medical and hospital system. The Special Committee has done that. An Interim Report by the Special Committee was approved by the National Executive Committee as the official policy of the Legion, and the Committee will present its final report to the Convention.

The National Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Commission will continue its efforts to see that the needs of war veterans are met. The measure of its success depends, to a great extent, on the active support of Legionnaires, and of the members of the American Legion Auxiliary. That support has been excellent through the years, and with its continuance The American Legion will move steadily forward in defense of the rights and benefits assured to veterans by a grateful nation.



*Congressman Olin E. Teague, of Texas, chairman of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, greets National Commander John H. Geiger as the Commander arrives to offer Legion testimony on the present Rehabilitation-Legislative program of the Legion.*

#### EMBLEM SALES DIVISION

Clayton C. Schlick (Iowa), Chairman  
Alfred L. Lankenau, Jr. (Indiana), General Manager

The American Legion emblem is the exclusive property of the National Headquarters. The sale of the emblem, emblem pins, merchandise carrying the emblem, and other items of organizational equipment is the responsibility of the National Emblem Committee and the National Emblem Sales office, located at National Headquarters in Indianapolis. The following

tables show gross sales, net earnings, etc., for the entire calendar year 1971, and for the first three months of 1972.

#### January 1 to December 31, 1971 (12 months)

Gross sales.....	\$2,046,892
Cost of goods sold.....	1,258,626
Overhead .....	535,657
Operating profit including discounts taken.....	252,609

#### January 1 to March 31, 1972 (3 months)

Gross sales.....	489,273
Cost of goods sold.....	247,817
Overhead .....	125,595
Operating profit including discounts taken.....	115,861



**Churchill T. Williams**  
**Finance Commission**

#### FINANCE COMMISSION

Churchill T. Williams (Iowa), Chairman  
Francis Polen (Indiana), National Treasurer  
James E. Smith (Indiana), Fiscal Supervisor

The Finance Commission is composed of seven (7) members. The National Commander and the National Treasurer are Ex-Officio Members. The National Adjutant is the Ex-Officio Secretary. The primary obligation of the Finance Commission is to prepare a yearly budget for submission to the National Executive Committee and to exercise reasonable control procedures to see that the various divisions and/or departments of the National Organization operate within the approved appropriations.

Obviously, in considering budget recommendations prime consideration must be given to the avoidance of "deficit budgets" and envisioning the financial problems of The American Legion for a period of years beyond that involving the specific proposals of "the year" under consideration.

It was this thinking that motivated the Finance Commission to support the dues increase enacted in 1971, and



which became effective Jan. 15, 1972. The 1972 year will be a deficit year because the full effect of the dues increase will not be felt until 1973. The deficit will be a minimum, however, and will be taken care of during the 1973 fiscal year.

One of the questions properly asked is that relating to alternatives to a dues increase to resolve a financial crisis. Of course, programs could be eliminated and personnel reduced. This facet has been carefully explored. The answer is that projects have been pared, and at a time they more properly, for the "good of the Legion," should have been expanded. Since 1962 the number on the payroll has been cut 24% in the interests of sound financial policy. It is our belief that further reductions would impair efficiency and service.

The Rehabilitation Reserve Fund, established by an allocation of 25¢ of the dues structure, has been exhausted and it is now necessary to take additional monies from the general fund to satisfy the demands of this important operation. With each succeeding year this drain upon the National Treasury will increase.

Your attention is called to the reports of the various committees and trusts which report to the Finance Commission, which reports are contained elsewhere in this annual report. A full financial statement is incorporated in the Treasurer's Report.



**Emmett G. Lenihan**  
**National Security**

### **NATIONAL SECURITY**

**Emmett G. Lenihan (Washington), Chairman**  
**James R. Wilson (Pennsylvania), Director**

*"The American Legion is for peace, but it believes as did the father of our country, that the best assurance is to be found in a reasonable state of preparedness."*

*(4th National Convention, 1922)*

These words, set forth in a committee report a half century ago, evidence the resolve of the young American Legion that insuring the national defense would be a fundamental and continuing objective. Then as now, a strong and responsive military posture is imperative if we are to protect our

vital national interests, support our foreign policy and perpetuate our freedoms.

The work and programming activities of this Commission during the past year have been consistent with our basic objectives and did support basic national needs in a variety of ways.

Our principal motivating cause was the growing strategic imbalance between the United States and the Soviet Union. A prominent government panel observed nearly two years ago that: "In a dramatic shift in the balance of power, largely unnoticed by the public, the quarter century of clear U.S. strategic superiority has ended..... It is not too much to say that in the 1970s neither the vital interests of the U.S. nor the lives and freedom of its citizens will be secure."

Much of this Commission's work in the past year has been devoted to alerting the membership of The American Legion, the general public and the nation's legislators to the relative deterioration of America's ability to defend her freedoms and way of life. The President and his cabinet, committees and members of the Congress and the American people have been apprised of The American Legion's views on vital defense issues embodied in the resolutions adopted by our National Conventions. Also, testimony has been made to the responsible Committees of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives on vital defense issues.

The major recommendations to these prominent citizens included: the need to replace the B-52 with the B-1 bomber; modernization of our Minuteman deterrent force; support for the Safeguard ABM system; urging the maintenance of a superior technological base and the world's most effective R&D effort; advocating a sufficient naval construction program to insure realistic American seapower on the world's oceans; strong support for the modernization and superior maintenance of our Reserve and National Guard forces; continuing endorsement of the ROTC as a vital component of our over-all defense posture; support for our men and women in uniform.

Following are highlights of the activities conducted under the Commission's auspices:

**AMNESTY:** On March 1, National Commander Geiger appeared before a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee to present The American Legion's view on the controversial question of amnesty. Based upon Resolution 207 of the 53rd National Convention, the National Commander forcefully stated: "... we of The American Legion believe that giving any wholesale amnesty - whether conditional or unconditional - would make a mockery of the sacrifices of those men who did their duty, assumed their responsibilities in time of conflict, and in many cases, were killed, seriously wounded, or now lie in a prison camp somewhere in Indochina."

**RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS:** The American Legion ROTC Medal Awards Program, continues to expand with the goal of medal presentations at every ROTC and JROTC Unit. From June 1,



1971 to Feb. 15, 1972, 299 medals were awarded at 71 colleges and universities and 50 high schools in 36 states. Since the majority of Award Day ceremonies are held in May, the number is expected to double by the 54th National Convention. A mailing of the revised ROTC brochure to every commander of ROTC and JROTC unit was accomplished during the year.

**NEW DISASTER RELIEF UNDERSTANDING:** On Feb. 25, National Commander John H. Geiger and American National Red Cross President George G. Elsey signed an updated disaster agreement between their organizations, reinforcing 46 years of cooperation between the groups. The new understanding outlines methods of cooperation and financial responsibilities of each organization and established policies for disaster relief fund raising. Traditionally, American Legion Posts have given maximum personal efforts and physical resources in this 46-year old disaster cooperation with the American Red Cross.

**BLOOD DONOR:** Last year, 35 American Legion Departments actively participated in the Blood Donor Program to assure a plentiful supply of this living gift for military and civilian needs. For the eighth year, the Department of Rhode Island was the recipient of the first of two National Commander Awards with 100% of its Posts participating in the Blood Program. The Department of Delaware captured the second award with 36% of its total membership actively participating in this vital program. In addition to the continuing Blood Program, The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary joined with the American National Red Cross in the 6th Holiday Blood Donor Drive. Created to meet the increased nationwide blood demands during the Christmas-New Year season, 1971 was one of the most successful drives to date.

In concluding his testimony on the 1973 Defense Appropriations, the Director of the National Security-Foreign Relations Division, James R. Wilson, referred to The American Legion's efforts for "Peace Through Strength" by saying: "The American Legion earnestly hopes and prays for the easing of world tensions, and for an era of world peace."



*President George M. Elsey of the American National Red Cross and National Commander John H. Geiger sign an updated version of the disaster relief understanding between the Legion, the Legion Auxiliary and the Red Cross. It continues a cooperative effort that has been in operation since 1926.*

We sincerely hope that tangible results will derive from the SALT Talks and other negotiations directed toward reduced world tensions. Yet in the light of present world conditions, we feel America has no course other than to remain militarily strong."



**Thomas E. Whelan**  
**Foreign Relations**

## FOREIGN RELATIONS

Thomas E. Whelan (North Dakota), Chairman  
James R. Wilson, Jr. (Pennsylvania), Director

The past Legion year has been one of crisis in American foreign policy. The national interests of our nation and of our allies and friends around the world have been sorely tried. At the same time, the United States has exerted its utmost efforts to reduce tensions and to achieve peace in crisis areas around the globe. Some success has been achieved. Much remains to be done. The magnitude of the task before us reminds us of the vital necessity of maintaining a strong, modern, flexible national defense—our enemies respect only strength and the will to match it.

The most critical areas of foreign affairs are those of Indochina with its naked North Vietnamese aggression in South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia; the trilateral confrontation among Soviet Russia, Communist China, and the United States; and the growing menace of Soviet Russia in the Middle East, in the Mediterranean, in the Indian Ocean, and in Southeast Asia. Finally, the challenges to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Europe and in the Senate of the United States continued last year and will be renewed this coming year. Your Foreign Relations Commission endeavored to analyze these problems and to propose solutions that would be of lasting as well as immediate benefit to our country and to the free world.

Foremost among these international issues challenging our national security and world peace has been the Vietnam conflict. Despite President Nixon's effort to withdraw American troops and to Vietnamize the war there in order to safeguard our forces, achieve the release of our POWs, and



insure the South Vietnamese people an opportunity to defend their independence and right to self-determination, the communist enemy in North Vietnam launched a virulent, all-out conventional warfare invasion of South Vietnam. This invasion violated the 1954 Geneva Accords and the 1968 understandings under which the United States halted bombing North Vietnam. The invasion was made possible only through the provision of tanks, anti-aircraft missiles, and heavy artillery by the Soviet Union. It revealed the duplicity of the North Vietnamese who have stalled the Paris peace talks while they made the most meticulous preparations for the assault.

Your Foreign Relations Commission can proudly point out that The American Legion has consistently supported strong military action in Vietnam, such as was adopted recently by the President. At the 1971 Houston Convention we reaffirmed standing Legion policy by adopting a resolution No. 488 supporting the United States policy as the best means of achieving our goals; and we insisted that significant numbers of American troops be kept in South Vietnam until all our POWs have been released and our MIAs satisfactorily accounted for.

This resolution indeed reaffirmed stands taken in previous years back through 1965 calling for the elimination of enemy military sanctuaries and supply caches wherever located—this to include mining of North Vietnamese harbors, intensified bombing of Hanoi, and increased aerial attacks upon rail lines and rail centers throughout North Vietnam to impede the flow of modern arms and materiel into and through North Vietnam. The wisdom of this position is now being borne out by our military forces in Indochina. We hope that it will lead to a just and honorable peace by negotiation, if possible, leaving South Vietnam free to determine its own destiny.

As part and parcel of our position on the Vietnam conflict, your Commission has earnestly sought ways of easing the lot of our POWs by convincing North Vietnam to live up to its responsibilities under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 on

prisoner treatment. We have participated in the work of the Legion's special POW committee over the past two years. We have adopted resolutions urging proper treatment for our men in captivity. We have cooperated with the Royal Canadian Legion and veterans organizations in Europe and elsewhere in a campaign to pressure Hanoi to improve its treatment of our POWs. We continue to seek ways of reaching out to our POWs.

Second in importance during the past year was the rapid emergence of Communist China into prominence on the international stage. Voted into the United Nations last October replacing Nationalist China, recognized by one nation after another, Peking became the target of President Nixon's effort to reduce tensions in East Asia by developing closer, informal relations between our two countries. The American Legion, at the Houston Convention, supported the President's trip to Peking early this year on the basis of his desire to seek peace in the world; but we cautioned that no agreements should be made at the expense of our traditional ally, the Republic of China on Taiwan.

A third area of Legion concern during the past year has been the United Nations Organization and the position The American Legion should take toward continued U. S. membership in the world body today. The U. N. has seriously disappointed our hopes that it would be an effective weapon for world peace and cooperation among nations since it was founded in 1945. Resolution No. 124-71, adopted at Houston, called upon your Commission to study the U. N. and recommend a new American Legion policy toward it in the form of a resolution for consideration by the NEC at its Spring 1972 meeting.

The Commission formed an ad hoc subcommittee composed of its most experienced members. They completed their study and presented Resolution No. 21 to the



Ray McHugh (center), Vice President and Washington Bureau Chief, Copley News Service, chats with National Security Chairman Emmett Lenihan (left) and Thomas Whelan, National Foreign Relations Chairman, prior to addressing a joint session of the commissions on conditions in the Middle East.



National Commander Geiger and National Foreign Relations Chairman Thomas Whelan (right), are greeted by David Morris, commander of State Department Post No. 68, as they arrive for the post's reception for Legion leaders during the 1972 Washington Conference.



Spring NEC meeting where it was approved. In essence Resolution No. 21 recommended that the U.S. retain its membership in the U.N. if certain basic improvements were made in the administrative, fiscal, voting and personnel areas of the organization. Detailed changes were suggested as guidelines and, the resolution concluded, that if action were not taken to effect these changes in part at least by the end of the 1972 meeting of the U.N. General Assembly, then the U.S. should consider withdrawal from the U.N.



**Clarence C. Horton**  
**National Legislative Commission**

### **NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION**

**Clarence C. Horton (Alabama), Chairman**  
**Herald E. Stringer (Alaska), Director**

The National Legislative Commission continues to concentrate its efforts on implementing the legislative resolutions of The American Legion as adopted by National Conventions and the National Executive Committee.

Since 1919, your Commission has been charged with the responsibility of representing The American Legion before the Congress of the United States and assisting the National Executive Committee in the development of our legislative program. This program encompasses



*Making an historic first appearance before the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, National Commander John H. Geiger is greeted by Senators Herman Talmadge and Strom Thurmond.*

all areas of the Legion's concern for our nation's veterans. Through the Legislative News Bulletin and other Legion publications, the Commission keeps the membership of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary informed of Congressional action on legislation affecting the veteran and his dependent.

Our legislative portfolio for the 92nd Congress contains 249 resolutions embracing all facets of American Legion programs. Over one hundred of these resolutions have been wholly or partially accomplished, and more will be satisfied before this Congress adjourns. Resolutions adopted at this 1972 Convention will form the nucleus of our legislative program for the 93rd Congress. Mandates from the NEC may be added during its sessions here in Chicago.

Your Legislative Commission, through its Washington staff, sponsors legislation in accordance with our mandates and presents testimony regularly thereon before all of the Congressional Committees having jurisdiction over matters on which we are mandated. We have sponsored and supported legislation this year to accomplish American Legion objectives in the areas of veterans health, education and employment, compensation and pension, children and youth, drug abuse, environment, and preference for veterans in federal employment. We have supported the President as Commander-in-Chief in his Vietnam policy, opposed amnesty to draft dodgers and pressed the Congress for adequate funds for weapons and equipment to insure the security of this nation and its people.

Despite the controversy over foreign and domestic policy, national priorities, budget deficits and other pressures of a presidential election year, the Congress has enacted a substantial amount of legislation of benefit to the veteran. Included are increases in disability and death pension, improvements in the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation program, more health manpower training facilities and improvement of nurses' training programs, and federal income tax exemption for prisoners of war and persons missing in action. Also, liberalization of provisions relating to servicemen's life insurance, additional



*Not all of the Legion's legislative activity is carried on at the national level with the Congress. Each year the national Commander is invited to speak before many state legislatures. Here, Commander Geiger is being introduced to the Indiana House of Representatives by House Speaker Dr. Otis Bowen (left). Indiana Department Commander James Zoll (right) accompanied the National Commander to the session.*

ROTC scholarships and increased senior ROTC subsistence allowances, funds for acquisition, development and deployment of military hardware and for the revitalization of our merchant marine.

As we prepare this summary, there are a number of bills still pending which, if enacted, will accomplish other legislative objectives of The American Legion. Many of these bills were introduced at the request of the Legislative Commission.

Through the remainder of this session, the Legislative Division will concentrate on the following:

- Improvements in the VA medical program and preservation of its role with respect to veterans health care.
- An increase in educational assistance for Vietnam veterans.
- Adequate appropriations in fiscal year 1973 for the Veterans Administration and the Department of Defense, realistic in terms of today's cost of living and the mission of the agencies.
- Liberalization of the compensation program for service disabled veterans.
- An increase in the veterans burial award and a solution to the national cemetery problem.
- Funds for the control of harmful pollutants and preservation of the environment.

- Restoration of dates traditionally observed for Memorial Day and Veterans Day.
- Eradication of venereal disease, improvement of services for handicapped children and legislation to combat drug abuse.

Your Commission will insist on sufficient funds for the

*(Continued on Page 128)*



*National Commander Geiger (second from right), and National Legislative Director Herald Stringer (glasses), greet lawmakers attending Legion legislative luncheon during Washington Conference. Shown with the Legion officials (left to right) are: Rep. Charles Teague, of California; Rep. Harold Collier, of Illinois, and Rep. Leslie Arends, of Illinois.*

## AMERICAN LEGION ENDOWMENT FUND CORPORATION

**Harry W. Colmery (Kansas), President**

Foreseeing the necessity for a regular annual income to support its war veterans rehabilitation and child welfare programs, The American Legion, in the year 1925, conducted a national campaign for contributions to support those two programs. The proceeds from the campaign were placed in the custody of the American Legion Endowment Corporation as trustee, a goal of \$5 million having been set and generous contributions being received.

The corporation was incorporated in 1925 under the laws

of the State of Delaware and a trust agreement was entered into between The American Legion and the corporation under which the funds were administered by the corporation and the annual net income therefrom was paid to The American Legion for the use of the two programs described.

The financial condition of the endowment fund is summarized as shown below for each of the preceding years. The figures shown were taken from the annual audits of George S. Olive & Co., Indianapolis, Ind

	December 31, 1971	December 31, 1970	December 31, 1969	December 31, 1968	December 31, 1967
TOTAL ASSETS .....	\$7,112,784	\$7,203,138	\$7,203,282	\$7,215,132	\$7,230,709
Net interest received .....	408,728	293,098	257,300	233,678	242,562
Expense .....	<u>12,699</u>	<u>9,429</u>	<u>9,614</u>	<u>8,184</u>	<u>6,573</u>
Excess of income over expense .....	<u>396,029</u>	<u>283,669</u>	<u>247,686</u>	<u>225,494</u>	<u>235,989</u>
Earnings transferred or due to The American Legion ..	<u>358,826</u>	<u>283,669</u>	<u>247,686</u>	<u>225,494</u>	<u>235,989</u>
Yield on average book value of Securities (percent) .....	5.99	4.09	3.58	3.13	3.27



MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN  
GROUP OF C. P. A. FIRMS WITH  
OFFICES IN PRINCIPAL CITIES

GEO. S. OLIVE & CO.  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
320 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204  
635-8631

INDIANAPOLIS  
EVANSVILLE  
RICHMOND  
MUNCIE  
FORT WAYNE

April 3, 1972

John H. Geiger, National Commander,  
The American Legion  
National Headquarters,  
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Commander Geiger:

We have examined the statement of financial condition of The American Legion National Headquarters as of December 31, 1971 and the related statements of income and changes in fund balances for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of The American Legion National Headquarters at December 31, 1971 and the results of its operations and fund transactions for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Yours very truly,

*Geo. S. Olive & Co.*  
Certified Public Accountants

PERMISSION TO PUBLISH EXCERPTS FROM THIS REPORT OR REFERENCES THERETO, WITH MENTION OF OUR NAME,  
IS WITHHELD UNTIL THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF SUCH EXCERPTS OR REFERENCES ARE APPROVED BY US.

# THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## STATEMENT OF INCOME YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971

### REVENUES:

National dues .....		\$ 5,438,405
Less: Dues allocated to:		
Rehabilitation .....	\$ 678,416	
Publications Division .....	2,724,458	
		<hr/>
		3,402,874
		<hr/>
Dues available for current operations .....		2,035,531
		<hr/>
Publications Division (including dues allocation) .....		3,946,217
Emblem Division .....		2,046,892
Restricted income .....		148,439
Other income .....		391,422
		<hr/>
		8,568,501
		<hr/>

### EXPENSES:

Publications Division .....	3,621,627
Emblem Division .....	1,848,838
Salaries and employee benefits .....	2,122,160
Executive and staff travel .....	206,851
Commission and committee .....	464,761
Operational .....	712,919
Office .....	343,919
Occupancy and usage .....	323,691
Special projects (net of related income) .....	134,949
Charges to other areas (Publications, Emblem, Children and Youth, Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation) .....	(1,262,701)
	<hr/>
	8,517,014
	<hr/>

NET INCOME—exhibit C .....	\$ 51,487
----------------------------	-----------

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



# THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## Statement of Financial Condition

December 31

CURRENT FUNDS:	ASSETS	1971	1970
Cash on deposit and on hand .....		\$ 639,090	\$ 1,087,227
Accounts receivable:			
Emblem and Publications .....		161,525	147,845
Special .....		294,460	3,503
Mortgage note receivable .....		3,618	10,564
Inventories—at cost:			
Publications Division .....		275,320	218,604
Emblem Division .....		408,929	410,188
Prepaid expenses, supplies, advances and deposits .....		142,885	115,529
Investments—at cost (market value \$5,846,000; par value \$5,843,500 at December 31, 1971)—note 2:			
United States Treasury bills .....		1,736,497	1,952,292
United States Treasury bonds and notes .....		3,973,852	3,863,311
Uninvested cash .....		679	26,322
 Furniture, fixtures and equipment—at cost .....		 751,515	 654,236
 Deduct: Accumulated depreciation (straight-line method) .....		 385,153	 338,429
		<hr/> 366,362	<hr/> 315,807
 Washington, D. C. real estate—building and site—at cost .....		 821,522	 821,522
Less: Accumulated depreciation (straight-line method)—note 3 .....		 293,062	 278,112
		<hr/> 528,460	<hr/> 543,410
 Add: Funded depreciation reserve (cash and securities)—note 3 .....		 293,062	 278,112
		<hr/> 821,522	<hr/> 821,522
 Total current funds .....		 8,824,739	 8,972,714
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS:</b>			
Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund:			
Uninvested cash .....		4,910	13,176
Investments—at cost .....		317,046	300,889
		<hr/> 321,956	<hr/> 314,065
 Employees' Retirement Trust Fund—note 5:			
Uninvested cash .....		65,585	20,584
Accounts receivable from participating units .....		40,181	40,245
Investments—at cost (market value \$5,744,029 at December 31, 1971) .....		5,287,497	4,928,746
		<hr/> 5,393,263	<hr/> 4,989,575
		<hr/> \$14,539,958	<hr/> \$14,276,354
		<hr/>	<hr/>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**Exhibit B**

**LIABILITIES AND FUNDS**

**December 31**

**CURRENT FUNDS:**

**1970**

**1971**

Accounts payable .....	\$ 301,993	\$ 367,470
Credit balances in accounts receivable .....	22,599	7,031
Employees' withholdings .....	14,252	15,650
Accrued state and federal taxes .....	5,037	1,328
Emblem merchandise undelivered .....	59,048	61,827
Membership life insurance premiums payable—note 1 .....	311,783	481,816
Deferred income:		
Dues paid in advance .....	1,875,506	1,880,273
Subscriptions paid in advance and sundry .....	1,871,348	1,896,194
Current fund balances—exhibit C:		
Restricted:		
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Fund—		
note 4 .....	70,315	232,516
Children and Youth Fund .....	181,462	113,275
Restricted Fund—note 2 .....	1,703,096	1,601,065
Reserve Fund—note 2 .....	905,004	904,551
Other restricted funds .....	64,793	27,068
Gift to the Nation Maintenance Fund—note 2 .....	111,450	107,084
Appropriated surplus reserves .....	1,221,506	1,227,237
Unappropriated surplus .....	105,547	48,329

Total current funds .....	<u>8,824,739</u>	<u>8,972,714</u>
---------------------------	------------------	------------------

**NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS—exhibit C:**

Overseas Graves Decoration Trust Fund:		
Fund balance .....	321,956	314,065
	<u>321,956</u>	<u>314,065</u>
Employees' Retirement Trust Fund:		
Fund balance .....	5,393,263	4,989,575
	<u>5,393,263</u>	<u>4,989,575</u>
	<u>\$14,539,958</u>	<u>\$14,276,354</u>



# THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971

	Restricted Funds
<b>BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 1971</b> .....	<u>\$2,985,559</u>
<b>ADDITIONS:</b>	
Dues allocated for rehabilitation .....	678,416
American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation Income transferred to the American Legion.....	395,512
Contributions received .....	85,092
Investment income credited directly to fund .....	116,369
Oratorical contest prizes charged against current operations .....	44,000
Net income—exhibit A .....	<u>1,319,389</u>
<b>DEDUCTIONS:</b>	
Expenditures charged directly to funds .....	<u>1,268,828</u>
<b>INTERFUND TRANSFERS—note 4:</b>	
Allocations per National Finance Commission resolutions.....	
Partial reinstatement of reserves as unrestricted funds—amount equal to 1971 expenditures charged to current operations and furniture, fix- tures and equipment additions capitalized .....	
<b>BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1971</b> .....	<u><u>\$3,036,120</u></u>

(Exhibit C—  
sheet 3)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971

Appropriated Surplus Reserves	Unappropriated Surplus	Nonexpendable Trust Funds	
		Overseas Grave Decoration Trust	Employees' Retirement Trust
<u>\$ 1,227,237</u>	<u>\$ 48,329</u>	<u>\$314,065</u>	<u>\$4,989,575</u>
			415,769
		13,436	351,190
	51,487		
	<u>51,487</u>	<u>13,436</u>	<u>766,959</u>
		5,545	363,271
62,000	( 62,000)		
( 67,731)	67,731		
( 5,731)	5,731		
<u>\$ 1,221,506</u>	<u>\$ 105,547</u>	<u>\$321,956</u>	<u>\$5,393,263</u>
(Exhibit C— sheet 2) and (Exhibit B)	(Exhibit B)	(Exhibit B)	(Exhibit B)



# THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971

### APPROPRIATED SURPLUS RESERVES

	Publications Reserve	Direct Billing Reserve
BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 1971 .....	\$ 36,476	\$ .....
	<hr/>	<hr/>
INTERFUND TRANSFERS—note 4:		
Allocations per National Finance		
Commission resolutions .....	30,000	32,000
Partial reinstatement of reserves as		
unrestricted funds—amount equal		
to 1971 expenditures charged to		
current operations and furniture,		
fixtures and equipment additions		
capitalized .....	(16,748)	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13,252	32,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1971 .....	\$ 49,728	\$32,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971**

<b>Real Estate Reserve</b>	<b>Convention Reserve</b>	<b>Air Conditioning Reserve</b>	<b>Employee Insurance Premium Stabilization Reserve</b>	<b>Spirit of '76 Reserve</b>	<b>Total</b>
\$821,522	\$60,000	\$ 50,983	\$8,256	\$250,000	\$ 1,227,237
					62,000
		(50,983)			( 67,731)
		(50,983)			( 5,731)
\$821,522	\$60,000	\$ . . . . .	\$8,256	\$250,000	\$ 1,221,506



# THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971

### RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Veterans Affairs And Rehabilitation Fund	Children And Youth Fund
<b>BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 1971</b> .....	\$ 232,516	\$113,275
<b>ADDITIONS:</b>		
Dues allocated for rehabilitation .....	678,416	
American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation income transferred to the American Legion .....	197,756	197,756
Contributions received .....	20,000	22,250
Investment income credited directly to fund .....		
Oratorical contest prizes charged against current operations .....		
	<u>896,172</u>	<u>220,006</u>
<b>DEDUCTIONS:</b>		
Expenditures charged directly to funds .....	<u>1,058,373</u>	<u>151,819</u>
<b>BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1971—exhibit B</b> .....	<u>\$ 70,315</u>	<u>\$181,462</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971**

<b>Restricted Fund</b>	<b>Reserve Fund</b>	<b>Other Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Gift to the Nation Maintenance Fund</b>	<b>Total</b>
<u>\$1,601,065</u>	<u>\$904,551</u>	<u>\$27,068</u>	<u>\$107,084</u>	<u>\$2,985,559</u>
				678,416
		42,842		395,512
		7,385		85,092
102,031	453		6,500	116,369
		44,000		44,000
<u>102,031</u>	<u>453</u>	<u>94,227</u>	<u>6,500</u>	<u>1,319,389</u>
		56,502	2,134	1,268,828
<u>\$1,703,096</u>	<u>\$905,004</u>	<u>\$64,793</u>	<u>\$111,450</u>	<u>\$3,036,120</u>



# THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTE 1—MEMBERSHIP LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAM:

In connection with The American Legion's Life Insurance Plan, the Legion has created a Trust Fund to which the First National Bank of Kansas City, Missouri, as Trustee, holds legal title. The accumulated earnings from the trust fund and the experience rating refunds and dividends from the insurers (which combined to a total of approximately \$1,470,000 as of December 31, 1971) may be used, as directed by the Legion, for any one or more of the following purposes:

- a—to increase the fund
- b—to reduce or pay in full premiums thereafter due on the group insurance
- c—to provide additional life insurance benefits for the participants
- d—to make refunds to the participants
- e—to make distributions to The American Legion to be used in the support of its activities and programs serving the interest of the Legion and its members, provided that such distributions are not disapproved in writing by a majority of its insured members.

In accordance with the provisions of item (e) above, the Legion's National Executive Committee has established a scholarship program for eligible family members of participants in the life insurance program. As of December 31, 1971, the trust showed a liability of \$26,000 for scholarships granted.

### NOTE 2—INVESTMENTS:

At December 31, 1971, The American Legion carried the following investments as a part of its current funds:

BOOK VALUE					
	Restricted Fund	Reserve Fund	Gift to the Nation Maintenance Fund	Unrestricted	Total
<b>United States Government Obligations:</b>					
U. S. Treasury bills(A) . . . .	\$ 22,761			\$1,713,736	\$1,736,497
U. S. Treasury bonds(B) . . .	642,101	432,942		692,955	1,767,998
U. S. Treasury notes(C) . . . .	1,038,126	471,491	\$99,906	596,331	2,205,854
<b>Uninvested Cash(D) . . . . .</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>571</b>			<b>679</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals . . . . .	<u>\$1,703,096</u>	<u>\$905,004</u>	<u>\$99,906</u>	<u>\$3,003,022</u>	<u>\$5,711,028</u>

(A) Maturity dates range from February 3, 1972 to June 30, 1972.

(B) Maturity dates range from February, 1972 to May, 1985. Coupon rates range from 3¼ to 5⅞%.

(C) Maturity dates range from May, 1973 to November, 1978. Coupon rates range from 6¼ to 7¾%.

(D) Uninvested cash of the Gift to the Nation Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$11,543 is included with cash on deposit and on hand.

# THE AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### **NOTE 3—ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION— WASHINGTON, D. C. REAL ESTATE:**

Since 1969 annual depreciation of the Washington, D. C. property has been credited to the accumulated depreciation balance with a corresponding amount of investments and cash added to the funded depreciation reserve. Earnings of the funded depreciation reserve have been credited as investment income available for current operating purposes in the statement of income.

### **NOTE 4—INTERFUND TRANSFERS:**

During the year ended December 31, 1971, the National Finance Commission authorized certain allocations from the Legion's unappropriated current funds (surplus) as follows:

(A) \$30,000 to the Publication Reserve to provide funds to continue the prescribed purposes of the Reserve.

(B) \$32,000 to the Direct Billing Reserve to provide funds for the direct billing of members for annual dues with those departments that chose to share in the additional cost of direct billing.

The Publications Reserve was reduced \$16,748 by a transfer back to unrestricted current funds representing 1971 expenditures for furniture and fixtures for the New York Publications office. The latter items have been treated as additions to depreciable assets in the accompanying statement of financial condition. After prior years' allocations and expenditures for this project and the current year's activity, \$49,728 remained in this reserve at December 31, 1971.

The Air Conditioning Reserve was decreased \$50,983 by a transfer back to unrestricted current funds representing 1971 expenditures for furniture and fixtures for the executive offices of the national headquarters. These items have been treated as additions to depreciable assets in the accompanying statement of financial condition. The reserve was closed as of December 31, 1971 since the purposes of the project had been fulfilled.

### **NOTE 5—EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN:**

Since 1944, The American Legion has maintained a retirement plan for all eligible employees of the national headquarters and the Legion's various subsidiary and subordinate groups. Contributions to the plan are made by the national organization and by the other participating groups on the basis of annual actuarial valuations. Current service is being funded on a level premium basis while past service is being amortized generally over ten years.

The assets of the retirement trust, which are reflected in the accompanying statement of financial condition, are held by the Merchants National Bank & Trust Company, Indianapolis, Indiana, as Trustee of this fund.

The actuary's valuation of the retirement fund as of January 1, 1971, shows liabilities of \$7,600,000 accrued and accruing for past and current service and total assets of \$5,063,000 (at market), or a funding of liabilities equal to 67%, which, in the opinion of the actuary is a satisfactory funding level.





## LEGISLATIVE

(Continued from Page 115)

Department of Labor in FY 1973 to cover veterans unemployment as well as job placement services, and for adequate funding of certain foreign aid programs.

The Legislative Commission has met once in Washington since the National Convention last August and Subcommittees thereof have been called into session twice to participate in meetings of the National Executive Committee.

We are proud to report that the Legislative Commission and its staff continue to maintain the excellent relations with the Congress which are so vital to the success of our program. We have had splendid cooperation again this year from the national officers and members of the Commissions and Divisions of both The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. The support of all of these individuals is deeply appreciated by your National Legislative Commission.

## AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

The American Legion Auxiliary, one of the world's largest Auxiliary organizations, came into being as a result of action by the First Annual American Legion National Convention in 1919, and has been an active, able and consistent partner of The American Legion, not only enhancing the effectiveness of Legion programs but instituting parallel programs of its own in the service of God and country.

Auxiliary membership is open to mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, and grand-daughters of veterans who served in time of conflict or to women who served in the armed forces in similar times and are eligible through their own service. The latter also are eligible for membership in The American Legion.

Nearly a million strong, the Auxiliary has set that magic number as a membership objective for 1972.

The organization of the Auxiliary, its principles and programs, are similar to those of the Legion and nearly all Legion programs have their counterpart in Auxiliary programming in that the Auxiliary has its own national commissions and committees with the same concerns as those of the Legion ranging from National Security and Foreign Relations to Children & Youth.

Ladies of the Auxiliary always have given generously of their time, talent and resources in the area of veterans rehabilitation and to volunteer work in veterans hospitals, and in specific areas of work with America's young people.

One of the major sources of funding of Auxiliary programs is the Memorial Poppy project which finances a large portion of Auxiliary work while also providing therapy for hospitalized veterans who produce the poppies, as well as a source of income for those who make the poppies.

The National President of the American Legion Auxiliary is elected by action of the Auxiliary's National Convention as is the Legion's National Commander and the term of the Auxiliary President runs concurrently with that of the Legion Commander with whom she is elected to serve.

Mrs. Robert L. (Bertha) Parker, of Tahlequah, Okla., is now serving as National President of the American Legion Auxiliary and will hold that office until her successor is chosen by the 1972 National Convention in Chicago, Ill. During her term of office the National President travels as extensively as does the National Commander, visiting practically all of the Departments and several foreign countries.

The Eight and Forty (La Boutique des Huit Chapeaux et Quarante Femmes) is another women's affiliate of The American Legion, and bears especially assigned responsibilities in the area of work with Children & Youth. The organization each year sponsors several nursing scholarships for registered nurses wishing to expand their knowledge and skills in the field of tuberculosis control. In the 15 years the project has been in operation nearly 160 nurses have benefitted from this training. The Eight and Forty also makes important contributions to research and dissemination of knowledge in the field of cystic fibrosis.



Mrs. Robert L. (Bertha) Parker, of Tahlequah, Okla., National President of the American Legion Auxiliary, appears before the spring meeting of the National Executive Committee to present National Commander John H. Geiger with three checks totaling \$50,000 for continuing programs of the Legion. The checks were earmarked as follows: \$20,000 for Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation; \$20,000 for Children & Youth programs and \$10,000 for The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.



# THE GOOD STUFF™



Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskeys, 86 Proof & 100 Proof Bottled in Bond. Old Grand-Dad Distillery Co., Frankfort, Ky. 40601

One good thing leads to another.



Head of the Bourbon Family

Old Grand-Dad  
Bottled in Bond



# DEWAR'S PROFILES

(Pronounced Do-ers "White Label")



BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY • 86.8 PROOF • © SCHENLEY IMPORTS CO., N.Y., N.Y.

## TERRENCE McNALLY

HOME: New York, New York

AGE: 31

PROFESSION: Playwright

HOBBIES: Rock Concerts. Opera. Tennis.

LAST BOOK READ: "The Kingdom and the Power"

LAST ACCOMPLISHMENT: In spite of the enormous critical success of his play "Next," he feels a more personal accomplishment was sticking to writing through early failures.

QUOTE: "Today's audiences are into people to people things—relating to them, understanding them. When they realize that dramatically you can't get closer to people than an audience does with the actors and ideas during a play—then they'll start switching from movies to the legitimate theater. I'd like to help that happen."

PROFILE: As impatient as most with the problems that create today's social issues. But flexible, persistent, and keenly aware of the potential those same problems offer for dramatic use.

SCOTCH: Dewar's "White Label"



**Authentic.** There are more than a thousand ways to blend whiskies in Scotland, but few are authentic enough for Dewar's "White Label." The quality standards we set down in 1846 have never varied. Into each drop goes only the finest whiskies from the Highlands, the Lowlands, the Hebrides.

***Dewar's never varies.***